

# *Beckwith Middle School*

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*Ryan Shea*  
*Principal*

September 11, 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

There is nothing quite like the first day of school... the anticipation, the energy, the nervousness, the juxtaposition of returning to the familiar while also entering into the unknown and above all, the potential that lies ahead for us all.

This year many of those feelings are magnified. Perhaps some of you are feeling a bit more nervous or anxious. Maybe you are feeling more energized for the return, eager to rejoin our school community. What we hope everyone is feeling is the great possibility and opportunity to launch this school year together to innovate, connect, and educate in ways all our families deserve.

We have seen lots of memes and jokes about 2020 being the year of DOOM and yes, this has certainly been a year as unique as the challenges we have endured. Yet, when we hear the number 2020, the connection we invite you to make is one of 2020 vision. 2020 vision exhibits clarity. It's the bar we seek to reach. It's the best. When we say hindsight is 2020, we mean when looking back we now have the clarity we didn't have the luxury of having when we pushed forward.

The central office has a motto T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Accomplishes More). What we have seen over the course of the summer is that motto come to life. We are proud to be a part of this community and it is truly great to see the common phrase "we are all in this together" played out every day. We have created an [FAQ sheet](#) that we encourage you to check out as it is intended to provide answers to questions about our students' day. Student schedules are now available on the Parent Portal. Grade 5 students will be receiving scheduling information and Parent Portal log in by mail. Mr. Shea will also be hosting a 45-minute virtual parent session explanation for the scheduling next week. The focus will be on explaining the schedule. If you are unable to attend a recording of the session, it will be available the next day.

[Grade 5 Monday, September 14th, 7:00 PM-7:45 PM](#)

[Grade 6 Monday, September 14th, 8:00 PM-8:45 PM](#)

[Grade 7 Wednesday, September 16th, 7:00 PM-7:45 PM](#)

[Grade 8 Wednesday, September 16th, 8:00 PM-8:45 PM](#)

The truth is there will be times this school year when we will have to move forward and it may feel as if we don't have the clarity we wish we had. We would like to assert to you today that, in fact, we can and we do have a 2020 vision in the ways that truly matter. We know that whatever is happening around us, our students deserve the educational experiences that cultivate the genius inside each one of them. We know that we are making a commitment to remote and hybrid learning to achieve the best results possible. We will do so by bringing together a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and drive to our work. We will continue to build relationships with your child by having our teachers connect to each student and look them in the eye, whether they are next to us or on screen. This connection allows us, regardless of circumstance, to ensure that we give our students the opportunities to leverage their strengths and to push the bounds of their knowledge as they continue to grow. We will embrace the opportunity to innovate for excellence and continue to believe in ourselves regardless of what additional difficulty 2020 brings. The 2020 vision for BMS is clear. It is focused. It is possible. BMS Community... we've got this!

Sincerely,

Ryan Shea and The BMS Reopening Committee