

August 15, 2017

Hello Longhorns!

I hope you all had an amazing summer! It has been busy here at the “Ranch”! We are so excited about the new school year. Longhorn Round-Up last week was great—really one of my favorite events of the year. I cannot wait to see you back here at Baines Middle School in one short week!

We have a few changes to our administrative team this year. Dr. Joey Washington is our new Associate Principal. He is primarily responsible for instructional leadership and assisting with ensuring all students and staff have a safe and productive environment to learn and grow. Elizabeth Guerra-Canchola joins us as a new Assistant Principal. She is the 6th grade principal.

As a point of reference, here are the contact people for each grade level:

- 8th grade: Principal—Dr. Matt Milner; Counselor—Maria Brockie
- 7th grade: Principal—Marc Muscarello; Counselor—Rashunda Endsley
- 6th grade: Principal—Elizabeth Guerra-Canchola; Counselor—Erica Burr (A-K) and Pam Juniel (L-Z)

A few reminders for the first day and week of school...

First Day of School Reminders - School Begins on Tuesday, August 22nd

- School Hours - 8:55 a.m. (tardy bell) to 4:10 p.m. (dismissal)—the bell schedule is at the end of this letter.
- Building Hours for Students - 8:10 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. Students should not arrive before 8:00 a.m.
- Bike riders must secure their bikes to the bicycle racks on the bus ramp; please insist your child wears a bike helmet, even if it doesn’t seem “cool”
- Drop off for car and carpool riders in the front circle – For your child’s safety, please do not use the parking areas for drop off.
- Bus riders will enter the building from the bus ramp (the FBISD Transportation Department will send route information soon.)
- Pick-up at dismissal—If you park across the street to pick up your child at the end of the day, we ask that you walk across the street to meet them and walk them back across the street. This is to protect your child during the heavy traffic time at dismissal.
- Students must be in dress code for the first day of school. If they are out of dress code, we will ask them to correct their attire. Here is the link to the Fort Bend ISD student code of conduct for dress code specifics <https://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/947>
- General reminders for dress code are:
 - No skin showing through holes or rips in jeans
 - Dresses and shorts must be no higher than 3” above the knee
 - No spaghetti strap tops, tank tops, off the shoulder tops, or shirt with back and shoulders exposed.
 - Shirts must cover the midriff and not expose undergarments
 - No clothing that is excessively tight such as spandex/lycra (tights, leggings, yoga pants) unless worn with a garment that reaches **mid-thigh**.
 - Shoes must be appropriate for school. Shower slides, slippers, and house shoes are not permitted.

Where Do I Report?

- Sixth graders will report to the Commons
- Seventh graders will report to Gym 1 (smaller gym)
- Eighth graders will report to Gym 2 (larger gym)

- After arriving at their assigned grade level area, students will find their name on the alphabetical listings posted in multiple places around the area. These listings tell students who their Longhorn Time (advisory) teacher is. Students will sit with their Longhorn Time teacher, who will have a sign identifying them. Longhorn Time teachers will walk their entire class to the classroom when they are dismissed.

What Do I Bring to School on the First Two Days?

- Pen/Pencil
- Backpack or string bag.
- Lunch (if you don't plan to purchase from the cafeteria; lines could be long)
- Student ID (last year's is fine if you didn't have one made at orientation)

The first day of school, we will have three lunches based on the modified schedule for the day. Lunch on the first day is longer to allow more time for students to eat. Beginning on Wednesday, August 23rd, we will have four lunches every day. We are finalizing the lunch schedule for students this week and will share that information with students when they return to school. Please note that due to the nature of the master schedule and four-lunch schedule, the lunches may not be grade specific. We have structures in place to ensure that all students have an opportunity to have a positive experience at lunch. The bell schedule for the 2017-2018 school year is at the end of this letter.

Backpacks and string bags: Students cannot carry a backpack or string bag of any kind from class to class for the 2017-2018 school year. Student can bring a backpack or string bag to school, and leave it in their locker at the beginning of the day. As mentioned in previous communication this is first and foremost a safety and well-being issue for our students and our staff. During the first several weeks of school, students will have opportunities to organize their AVID binders (6th and 7th grade) and their lockers (all grades) so that they can efficiently and effectively move throughout their day. We will have Longhorn Time (aka Advisory) every day this year. The curriculum during Longhorn Time will help students to get organized, learn organizational skills, and stay organized. Students will have the opportunity to visit their locker before and/or after 7th period to prepare for dismissal.

Thank you for your continued support in this effort as we adjust our procedures to maximize student safety and well-being.

PE Uniforms: The expectation is that all students dress out for PE. They can wear their uniform from last year, buy a new one via webstore, or they can wear any Baines spirit/athletics shirt with navy/orange/shorts. Uniforms purchased via webstore will be picked up during students' PE classes on Thursday, August 24th. Due to time constraints, any child that does not get them Thursday will get them the following class period. It is the student's responsibility to notify their PE teacher that they have purchased a uniform and need to pick it up. If you have further questions regarding PE uniforms, please contact Jen Lee, Girls' Coordinator or Brandon Niceswanger, Boys' Coordinator.

The link to the BMS web store is: <https://fortbendisd.revtrak.net/FBISD-Schools-1082/Middle-School/Baines-MS/Baines-MS-PE/#/list>

Lunch accounts: If you choose, you can add money to your child's lunch account electronically. Please follow this link to the FBISD system: <https://fortbendisd.revtrak.net/>

Staying Up-To-Date and Volunteer Opportunities

If you do not subscribe to *Longhorn Links*, the BMS PTO's weekly newsletter, please visit www.bmspto.org, and sign up for the newsletter under "Sign Up for Longhorn Links." Baines could not be the fantastic school that it is without the generous support of the PTO, the community, and volunteers. Each year volunteers must resubmit their Criminal History Application in order to be cleared to volunteer at district schools. If you need to renew or submit for the first time, please visit <http://www.fortbendisd.com/Page/659> for details and to submit your information.

School Supplies

If you have not purchased school supplies, please click the link to view the lists.

<https://www.fortbendisd.com/cms/lib/TX01917858/Centricity/Domain/2476/Baines%20Middle%20School%20Supply%20List%202017-2018-updated.pdf>

Traffic: Construction is planned to begin soon on Sienna Parkway. This will likely cause delays and additional traffic. Please plan accordingly so that your child is in their first period class at the start of the day at 8:55 a.m.

Back to school paper work: Your child will received a large brown envelope with several different pages of information. Please read over and sign the necessary paper work. Your child will return the information to their Longhorn Time (advisory) teacher. All paper work is due by Friday, August 24, 2017.

New this year many forms are available on line. Please log in to Family Access via the Fort Bend ISD website, www.fortbendisd.com to complete the information. If you do not have family access, please contact Carla Ojeda-Llorens at Carla.OjedaLlorens@fortbendisd.com to request family access.

Planning ahead: Fall Open House is Thursday, September 7, 2017. Time and details coming soon!

Again, I am so excited for our new school year. At Baines Middle School, we have an amazing group of students, staff, and parents. I am thankful for the support of our parents and our community as we navigate through your child's middle school years together. I am looking forward to seeing our children grow and succeed academically, behaviorally, and socially this year!

Enjoy the last few days of summer!

With much gratitude,

J. J. Roberts
Principal

BAINES MIDDLE SCHOOL				
BELL SCHEDULE 2017 -2018				
Student lunches tracks are based upon their 3rd period course.				
	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
1st	8:55 - 9:40	8:55 - 9:40	8:55 - 9:40	8:55 - 9:40
2nd	9:45 - 10:30	9:45 - 10:30	9:45 - 10:30	9:45 - 10:30
3rd	A LUNCH	LH TIME	CLASS	CLASS
	10:35 - 11:05	10:35 - 11:05	10:35 - 11:40	10:35 - 11:40
	LH TIME	B LUNCH	C LUNCH	LH TIME
	11:10 - 11:40	11:10 - 11:40	11:45 - 12:15	11:45 - 12:15
	CLASS	CLASS	LH TIME	D LUNCH
	11:45 - 12:50	11:45 - 12:50	12:20 - 12:50	12:20 - 12:50
4th	12:55 - 1:40	12:55 - 1:40	12:55 - 1:40	12:55 - 1:40
5th	1:45 - 2:30	1:45 - 2:30	1:45 - 2:30	1:45 - 2:30
6th	2:35 - 3:20	2:35 - 3:20	2:35 - 3:20	2:35 - 3:20
7th	3:25 - 4:10	3:25 - 4:10	3:25 - 4:10	3:25 - 4:10