

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Will there be sports and activities this year?

A: Yes, but with limitations. Please check the BMS Website for updates on all sports and activities: <https://www.bemidji.k12.mn.us/bms/> under BMS Resources on the left hand side is a tab for BMS Activities info.

Q: How does morning drop off work?

From 7:30am-8:00am 7th and 8th grade students will enter via the cafeteria doors where they will remain, supervised and socially distanced, until the 8:12 bell. 6th grade students will go directly to the Delta Pod Door 6 anytime before 8:35am.

For those students riding the bus or being dropped off between 8:00am-8:35am, each grade will enter the building from a different location:

***6th Grade:** will walk around the outside of the school and enter via Delta Pod Door 6. From there, they will have the choice to go outside for morning recess or go to the classroom of their first hour pod teacher for breakfast.

***7th Grade:** will walk around the outside of the school and enter the building through the cafeteria entrance. From there they will have the opportunity to get breakfast and stay in the cafeteria or go to their first hour pod classroom.

***8th Grade:** will walk around the outside of the building and enter through the flagpole entrance. There will be breakfast carts available for students to get their breakfast and either eat in the pod or be in the south gym socially distanced.

Students who arrive after 8:35 am will enter through the flagpole entrance to check into the front office.

Q: How does evening pickup work?

***6th grade** students who are not riding the bus are asked to be picked up by the Sagedahl Field (the baseball field closest to Target). To ensure they have time to reach their vehicles prior to the other grades being released, they will be allowed to leave class at 3:15pm. We will escort and supervise these students until 3:45pm. If you intend to be later than 3:45pm, please make arrangements to register your child with Kids and Co. (a fee will be required) that will be offered at BMS in the cafeteria.

***7th & 8th grade** students not riding the bus will be picked up in the BMS School parking lot or should arrange to walk to Sagedahl Field to meet their family there if they have a 6th grade sibling.

*Any student who will not have a ride by 3:45pm, will need to join Kids and Company in the cafeteria. If you intend to be later than 3:45pm, please make arrangements to register your child with Kids and Co. (a fee will be required) that will be offered at BMS in the cafeteria.

**All students are expected to be picked up from the building by 3:45pm so we can begin our building sanitization process.*

Q: I cannot pick up my child by 3:45pm. I do not want my child to ride the bus. What are my options?

A: Bemidji Middle School is partnering with Kids and Co to offer fee-based child care for those who sign up for it. Please go to the Community Education Website for more information and to register for care. All students not signed up for Kids and Co or participating in an after school activity will be asked to leave the building after 3:45 so we can begin sanitizing.

Q: Will I be able to pick up my student from school during the school day?

Yes, but with precautions. Please mask up, enter the building at the Flagpole Entrance, and come to the desk to sign your child out. You will return to your vehicle and your child will be called out of class and dismissed to you. This will relieve congestion in the office while keeping in line with our safety protocols.

Q: What are the expectations for my student on the off-weeks he/she is remote learning from home?

Teachers will be offering both synchronous (live) and asynchronous (recorded lessons) learning opportunities at the teacher's professional discretion. All materials will be accessed by your student using Google Classroom. They will use their Google account to log in to class every day to learn their assignments and do daily coursework. If they are not able to log in for synchronous teaching, they will be able to access that day's lesson through their Google Classroom account.

Q: How do I checkout a Chromebook for my student

A: There is only one Chromebook allowed **per family (not one per-child per-school)** at this time. If your child does not have a device (cell phones are not considered devices and are not allowed) that can be shared, please contact BMS and we will send you a link to a Google Form. This form needs to be filled out and submitted. The form will be reviewed at the district office and they will contact you when you have been approved for a Chromebook and let you know the appropriate location for pickup.

Q: If there is only one Chromebook per family, what other technology do I need to provide?

Cell phones are not part of the Bemidji Middle School learning plans for an electronic device and should not be considered a mode of learning for your student. You may purchase a computer for your child to bring to school and use to work on at home. At a minimum, the laptop should have a camera, audio, built-in microphone, be wifi capable and have a minimum of any of the following operating systems:

- *Windows 7 or Higher
- *Mac OS 10.10 or higher
- *Any Chromebook
- *Ipad (with keyboard) running iOS 12 or higher
- *Android tablet (with keyboard) running 5.0 or later

**Please be aware that Bemidji Area Schools are not responsible for any lost or stolen items on campus.*

Q: What if my student forgot their Google login information?

A: Please contact 333-3215 and we will assist you with your questions.

Q: Will there be orientation this year?

Yes. 6th Grade Orientation has been changed to Wednesday, September 9th, in-person, by pod. 7th and 8th grade New Student (meaning new to the district) Orientation will be September 9th in-person, in the cafeteria. Students who have signed up for Distance Learning will have a virtual orientation in their Google Classroom. We will send out a Skylert message/email or visit our website for updated information. *Please also see the important dates flyer in this packet for specific dates and times.* *Masks are required for all in-person orientations.

Q: How do the Cohorts work? How does this affect Allied Arts classes?

A cohort is a group of 15-17 students who travel together throughout the day. We are not able to mix students between cohorts in case of an event whereby we would need to contact trace. Students will be given allied arts classes but will not be able to choose which allied arts classes they receive. All students will receive PhyEd and a General Music class. For students who registered for Band/Choir/Orchestra, we have created the opportunity to receive lessons during the school day. However, other allied arts classes will be assigned based on availability by cohort. There will be no blue/white schedule this year and each allied art will be one quarter long.

Q: What does lunchtime look like?

Lunch will be in the cafeteria and the north gym. Desks are provided where they can be positioned 6ft apart from one another. Two pods will be allowed in the cafeteria and one pod will be in the north gym. The pods will rotate their time in the cafeteria. All pods will receive recess by the area they have lunch (north gym will have recess by the tennis courts, the cafeteria students will have recess in the bus loading zone parking lot)