

# ABC's of B-CC – Your Guide to Understanding B-CC High School

**ADMINISTRATORS/APs:** Administrators (often referred to as Assistant Principals or APs) are the school staff directly under the Principal, Dr. Mooney. **Each administrator supports students in a specific section of the alphabet.** Each administrator works directly with assigned counselors to help solve problems faster. Administrators will also continue to supervise grade-wide activities. This link will take you to the B-CC directory, where you can find email addresses for APs.

[Dr. Shelton Mooney](#), Principal

## Assistant Principals

Administrator	Ms. Angela Castillo	Ms. Lee Holland	Mr. DeBerry Goodwin	Ms. Leanna Blanford	Ms .Olga Shapiro
Class Supporting	2026 11 <sup>th</sup> grade	2027 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	2028 9 <sup>th</sup> grade	2025 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	2025 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
Last Names Supporting	A-C	D-H	I-M	N-T	U-Z and All EML Students
Instructional Programs Supporting	Social Studies Career/Technical Education	Science World Languages Security Dept.	English Special Education	Math Health Music PE	Counseling English Language Development

**APs: classes/tests** AP stands for “Advanced Placement.” AP classes are geared toward a national exam that is given on a specific date in May by the College Board. They typically have a faster pace than on-level or honors courses and often involve more work. Social Studies AP classes are open to 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders. Additional APs in all subjects are common for 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. It is possible to take an AP class but opt out of taking the AP exam. It is also possible to take an AP test without taking the class. There may be a charge for AP exams. IN 2024, the county paid for most AP tests. Financial aid is possible. Students can take as many or as few APs as they choose to. Counselors can help families decide if AP classes are a good fit. A score of a 4 or 5 on an AP exam can often provide college credit or allow a college student to take a higher-level course in that subject area.

**ATHLETICS:** B-CC offers a variety of sports at the Varsity and some Junior Varsity level. There are three sports seasons, fall, winter, and spring. Parents **MUST** register their students on ParentVUE (you need a ParentVUE account – please see “communication”) during the registration period for each sports season for a student to be allowed to try out and participate on a team. Announcements about the registration periods will be posted on the PTSA listserv, BCCnet. A current physical is also required to be either uploaded or delivered in person. This page has a link to the forms:

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/athletics/parent/forms.aspx>

Full information about B-CC school-sponsored athletics can be found at

<https://baronathletics.net>

Students must be academically eligible to participate in sports – **A student must maintain a minimum 2.0 unweighted marking period grade average with no more than one failing grade in a marking period** in order to participate in any athletic contests or to participate in or attend any practices during the next marking period.

For any questions about B-CC school sports, please contact Athletic Director Mike Krawczel [Michael\\_R\\_Krawczel@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Michael_R_Krawczel@mcpsmd.org)

**In addition, B-CC has a variety of very successful and popular private club teams.** They are not recognized by MCPS.

B-CC Crew can be found at [www.bcccrow.org](http://www.bcccrow.org) or [president@bcccrow.org](mailto:president@bcccrow.org)  
Sailing: please reach out to Anna Grolleman at 202-258-6693, or Christine Zebrowski Tatelbaum (parent – Amelia '26, Ryan '21) at [tatelbaums@msn.com](mailto:tatelbaums@msn.com).  
Co-ed competitive Ultimate Frisbee team (no experience required). If interested contact [baronsultimatefrisbee@gmail.com](mailto:baronsultimatefrisbee@gmail.com).

**ATTENDANCE:** There are strict attendance policies for high school. Students are expected to arrive at class on time, every day. Being late to class earns a “tardy.” Unexcused tardies may be combined for one unexcused absence. Teachers will have a conference/conversation with students with 3 unexcused absences in a class and will contact home. You can view your student’s tardies in ParentVue.

If a student misses a class, a parent or guardian must send an email or have the student turn in a paper note signed by a parent or guardian to Mr. Erwin Avila, the Attendance Secretary, in the main office. The note must include: student name, student ID number, student grade, and the reason and date(s) that school was missed. The same process is required if students need to leave school early or arrive late to school. MCPS has specific activities that count as excused absences. Notes must be submitted within 3 days of returning from absence.  
[erwin\\_avila@mcpsmd.org](mailto:erwin_avila@mcpsmd.org)

For more information on what counts as an excused absence,  
<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/siteassets/schools/middle-schools/g-m/gaithersburgms/uploadedfiles/attendancesummarydocument.docx.pdf>

**AtoZ DIRECTORY:** A directory of B-CC families sponsored by the PTSA. The directory is provided free of charge to 9<sup>th</sup> grade and new families. Families will be asked to verify their information at the start of the school year. It is possible to opt-out of being listed in the directory OR to limit what information you list (e.g., not your home address, only your email). AtoZ also has an app that you can use to look up contact information.

**BELL TIMES:** (This refers to the class schedule) Below is the typical bell time schedule, which can vary for special programming. This [link](#) will show bell times for (1) Wellness Wednesdays, (2) Early Release Days, and (3) 2-hour delays.

B-CC HS Bell Schedule	
Period	Time
Warning Bell	7:40 am
1	7:45 am - 8:31 am
Announcements	8:37 am - 8:43 am
2	8:43 am - 9:29 am
3	9:35 am - 10:21 am
4	10:27 am - 11:13 am
Lunch	11:13 am - 11:54 am
5	12:00 pm - 12:46 pm
6	12:52 pm- 1:38 pm
7	1:44 pm - 2:30 pm

**B-CC PARENT/Community ORGANIZATIONS:**

**B-CC PTSA:** The PTSA works closely with B-CC High School to help students, families, and staff succeed. We provide meetings for families on key topics, plan and pay for student events, provide teacher support and appreciation, closely supplement all school communication, provide financial support for student school clubs and a wide variety of school needs, academic, extracurricular, and social, as well as mental health and wellness. We also answer parents' questions and support individual groups within the school. We operate a free listserv and provide a free directory. We also advocate for our school and students with MCPS and the Board of Education. And we work closely with student leaders. We frequently host town halls on major topics or to allow parents to ask questions of B-CC. The PTSA has many subcommittees and ways to get involved. Join the PTSA [here](#).

**PTSA Listserv:** This is a free listserv run by the PTSA. Join [here](#).

For more information, visit [www.bccptsa.net](http://www.bccptsa.net) or email B-CC PTSA President Laurie Bolt, [president@bccptsa.org](mailto:president@bccptsa.org).

**Volunteering Opportunities with the PTSA:** Please contact Kerry Green and/or Evis Daum [greenkm@umd.edu](mailto:greenkm@umd.edu) or [evistaum@zoho.com](mailto:evistaum@zoho.com) or fill out this [form](#) to volunteer to help. Someone will be in touch.

**B-CC Cares:** B-CC Cares is a program of the B-CC PTSA. It provides a free pantry with food and other household staples for students and families in need, as well as holds a Holiday House, and provides other support to families in challenging economic or other circumstances. Please contact Meg McKinney to volunteer -- [meg.mckinney@mckinneyfigini.com](mailto:meg.mckinney@mckinneyfigini.com),

**B-CC Educational Foundation:** The mission of the B-CC High School Educational Foundation is to fund high-need, high-impact academic programs that drive student success across our entire school. Currently, the Foundation prioritizes funding three types of programs:  
Academic Support to ensure all students are supported to meet their potential.  
College Readiness to ensure all students who want to attend college are prepared and supported to meet that goal.  
Professional Development to attract and retain the highest quality faculty and strengthen the bond between the school and the community. For more information and for more about specific programs, please visit: <https://www.bccedfoundation.org>

**B-CC High School Athletic Boosters:** The B-CC High School Athletic Boosters is a non-profit parent volunteer and community organization comprised of parents, alumni, coaches, school staff, community members & corporate sponsors. The B-CC Sports Boosters support all 48 school-sponsored sports teams and over 800 B-CC student athletes. Their mission is to promote school spirit and sportsmanship, assist with equipment purchases, uniform purchases, and professional development for our coaches, and field maintenance, Senior Night Recognition, and work with the B-CC Athletic Director to identify funding priorities for athletic programs, including long term special funding projects. Contact: Rex Garcia-Hidalgo, President, [baronssportsboosters@gmail.com](mailto:baronssportsboosters@gmail.com) / <https://www.bccboosters.com>

**B-CC Music Boosters:** Music Boosters are parents of Music Students, alumni, B-CC community members and partners who support the music department with time, energy, and financial donations. All donations and proceeds from fundraisers go directly to support the goals of the Music program and the musical growth and enrichment of the students. With so many important budget demands, MCPS can only provide a fraction of the funds needed to support a strong Music program. Hence, excellence in B-CC's Music program depends heavily on the ongoing support of parents and the community. [MusicBoostersBCC@gmail.com](mailto:MusicBoostersBCC@gmail.com).

**BULLYING:** This link provides information on MCPS bullying policies, a guide for how to distinguish between bullying and everyday conflict, and a link to the MCPS bullying reporting form. <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/bullying/>

**BUSES:** If there is a problem with a bus route – overcrowded, missing stops, or late, please reach out to the Bethesda bus depot: <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/transportation/depots/bethesda.aspx>

Depot Manager: Jim Beasley, 240-740-6569

Dispatcher: Hobart Bennett, 240-740-6580

If there is an issue with behavior on the bus – fights, bullying, etc., please call the B-CC Main Office and ask to speak to an administrator. 240-740-0400.

These are the regular bus routes for the 2024-2025 school year:

MORNING/ARRIVAL TO B-CC:

<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/siteassets/district/departments/transportation/busroutes/04406bus.pdf>

## CELL PHONES:

B-CC has a policy for cell phones and other personal mobile electronic devices – headphones/earbuds/smart watches/ iPads, etc.: They cannot be used during class unless allowed by a teacher. Please see the updated policy below.

### Important Documents

- [MCPS Regulation COG-RA Personal Mobile Devices Policy](#)
- [Student Code of Conduct](#)

### What are Personal Mobile Devices (PMD)?

PMD are any non-MCPS issued device used to send or receive data via voice, video, or text. This includes tablets, laptops, headphones, smart watches, phones, and e-readers.

### B-CC School-Wide Personal Mobile Device Expectations

In alignment with the MCPS Regulation COG-RA, students can use Personal Mobile Devices before school, during lunch, after school, and during transitions. In addition, COG-RA Regulation states that, “PMDs should be .... out of sight during times of unauthorized use.” PMDs should be stowed in backpacks. If a teacher chooses to use a PMD pocket holder, students have the option of placing their device there.

The COG-RA regulation states, “devices may be confiscated by school authorities[staff] if used in a manner not consistent with MCPS policies, regulations, or rules.”

### Tiered Interventions to Support Students Not Meeting the Expectations

**Best practices:** Class REer at the beginning of the period. ([Poster](#) & [Slide](#) Reminder)

**Intervention 1:** Private conversation between the teacher and the student.

**Intervention 2:** Teacher communication to parent/caregiver.

**Intervention 3:** Once all these interventions have been implemented, staff should submit a referral. Administrative team implements a consistent approach to address PMD use in alignment to the Student Code of Conduct.

*\*Staff may choose when it is best for them to continue the following intervention.*

*\*After first intervention, PMDs may be confiscated at teacher discretion if a student does not comply with expectations and/or PMD is still visible.*

**COVID:** If your student is ill with anything, please keep them home. Send an email to Mr. Avila ([Erwin Avila@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Erwin_Avila@mcpsmd.org)), School Attendance Secretary, to let the school know of your child's absence. Please check the MCPS website for the current COVID policies.

**CHROMEBOOKS:** These are laptop-style computers. All MCPS students will receive a Chromebook and **Chromebooks will be necessary for school (and in school each day) this year.** MCPS has upgraded firewalls and other internet features so that most personal computers will not operate inside B-CC for academic work. Chromebooks can be picked up in the media center starting at 7:20 AM, also during lunch, and after school until 3 PM.

**CLUBS (Students):** There are more than 100-student run clubs at B-CC. Each has a faculty sponsor. Each September, there is a club fair where students share club information. Students can also start their own clubs. Clubs are a great way to get involved with the school and meet other students – but pick a club that you are interested in, not something that you think looks good! For a list of student clubs at B-CC, please visit – the list will be updated in September: <https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bcchs/activities/clubs>

#### **COLLEGE AND CAREER TERMS:**

**College Advisory Committee/CAC:** A PTSA/parent-led committee that supports students and families in the College Process with events, essay coaches, free SAT and ACT practice tests and advice sessions and more. The College Advisory Committee works with B-CC to ensure our Seniors will be supported through this process and our Juniors will be in a good position to evaluate and apply to colleges when their turn comes. PLEASE keep an eye out on the B-CC listserv for further announcements and invite others who are not yet on the listserv to join. (See the tab "Join the B-CC ListServ" at <https://www.bccptsa.net/>) Find more on CAC here: <https://bccptsa.net> Contact Nancy Edwards or Molly Chehak or Tina Cusack for more information at [bcc.ptsa.cac@gmail.com](mailto:bcc.ptsa.cac@gmail.com)

**College and Career Advisor:** At B-CC, our CCC Advisor is Ms. Kate Heald, [Catharine E Heald@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Catharine_E_Heald@mcpsmd.org). The CCC assists students with the college and career process

and organizes visits by college representatives. Ms. Heald runs many special programs and maintains an extensive scholarship database. Website:

<https://sites.google.com/mcpsmd.net/bcc-ccc-website/home>

During the school year, students and their parents can meet with Mrs. Heald before school, during lunch, or after school with an appointment to discuss the college process/search, testing, jobs, financial aid, scholarships, summer programs, or other college and career-related topics. Zoom appointments are available. Please email Ms. Heald.

**College Tracks:** CollegeTracks is geared toward first-generation college applicants. It is a college pathways program incubated through the B-CC HS Educational Foundation and now adopted at multiple high schools across Montgomery County. CollegeTracks staff and volunteers help students navigate the application process, financial aid, and a myriad of individual barriers to college success. Mentorship is a multi-year process, following students from high school through college graduation.

**COMMUNICATION:** It is VERY important that you have your most current and frequently checked email on file with the school. You do this by updating your contact information on your **ParentVUE** (Synergy) account. Otherwise, you may miss key communications. There are multiple platforms for how the school communicates with families.

Here is the LogIn page for ParentVUE, with additional information.

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/>

#### **Communications to Families:**

Synergy / ParentVUE: All of these emails come from this email address:

[NoReplySynergy@mcpsmd.org](mailto:NoReplySynergy@mcpsmd.org). This is sometimes how teachers write to parents. It is also how administrators send grade-wide messages and school-wide messages. You MUST activate your ParentVUE account if you do not have one. ParentVUE is also how you receive report cards, check attendance, see schedules, and it is the only way to register for sports. Please contact your child's counselor or the administrator assigned to your name group if you need help. (The ParentVUE login page is <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/mymcps-classroom/>)

If you need any support accessing or using ParentVUE or StudentVUE, please contact 240-740-7020, or email [communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org](mailto:communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org)

If you are able to see some children in ParentVUE but not all, please complete this form and MCPS can merge accounts:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc3RJam5FI3jdbhxmSttrSLB-ybJ3Gwp4sB8dPAwqj1VjmzNg/viewform>

**Remind:** An app available for iPhones or Androids that the school and county use to communicate with families.

**SMORE:** The program the school uses to create and send out weekly announcements.

Naviance: This is a platform just for College and Career information and for college applications. You also have to activate your Naviance account. You will receive college and career information through this account. It is where college application tasks are posted, and college visits are listed. And many other pieces of information related to college and careers. Please ensure this account is working by the second semester of 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

<https://www.naviance.com>

PTSA Listserv: This is a free listserv run by the PTSA. Join here:

<https://www.jotformpro.com/form/92363133354>

Alert MCPS: These are county-wide communications from the Central Office.

### **Additional Important Student Platform:**

MyMCPSClassroom: This is the portal for students and teachers. It is where teachers post all assignments and where work is turned in. Each class has a “tile” and information. This is a student only platform and not accessible to parents. Parents access MyMCPSClassroom information through ParentVUE. This platform also tends to have more up-to-date grades than ParentVUE.

**Here’s a recap of the major platforms you need an account for with MCPS:** Four for communication and three for payment. If your student will not be buying lunch, you will only need six.

1. **ParentVUE**: how to access grades and a route for emailing teachers. It is also vital that you have the correct email address with ParentVUE so the school can reach you with communications, which come from NoReply Synergy or Blackboard.
2. **Canvas/MyMCPSClassroom** — separate from ParentVUE, but you must access it through your ParentVUE account. It gives alerts about assignments and grades — and you can see a bit more into what’s due in each classroom. This is for those who want a deeper dive into what is going on for their students and perhaps an earlier heads up about how things are going in the classroom.
3. **Naviance**: this is a must for anything related to college, PLUS it is the only platform that counselors can use to email families and that the school College and Career Office can use, so you need to be on Naviance — please write your students’ counselor if you are not connected. Counselors cannot send emails through ParentVUE.
4. **Alert MCPS**: This [link](#) provides information about school closures or other emergencies.



## FINANCIAL PLATFORMS:

5. GoFan: Sports tickets <https://gofan.co/search> — search up B-CC. (For ticketed sports, tickets are no longer sold at the gate...tickets must be purchased online.)
6. School Cash Online: <https://www.schoolcashionline.com> — all school financial obligations outside of sports tickets and cafeteria meals.
7. My Bucks: <https://www.myschoolbucks.com/ver2/getmain?requestAction=home> — This year, meals (lunch and breakfast) will not be universally free. If you are not a FARMS family (free or reduced-price meals based on economic circumstances), and your student wants to buy lunch in school, they will need a “my school bucks” account that has funds available or cash. The cafeteria does not use credit or debit cards. (B-CC has open lunch, so many kids bring lunch or go off campus and buy in Bethesda as well — lots of potential options.)

If you need tech support with the platforms, email: [communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org](mailto:communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org)

**COUNSELORS:** A student’s counselor helps with academic issues that cannot be solved by the teacher, with special circumstances, and social-emotional issues. They are advocates for students. They also write a letter for the student for college. Assignments to counselors are made by last name. For more information, visit:

<https://www2.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/bcchs/counseling/>

**To find out your student’s counselor, click [here](#).**

**DIVERSITY PARENTS COUNCIL (DPC):** The mission of the Diversity Parents’ Council is to provide a forum to offer assistance, guidance, and support to parents for their students, especially students of color, in Montgomery County Public Schools to pursue the highest quality education possible through encouragement, information sharing, positive motivation, critical evaluation, advocacy, and leadership skills. DPC holds monthly meetings on a variety of topics and maintains its own communication group. (A PTSA sponsored committee) For more information, please contact Lisa Taylor, [lisa.taylor@rcn.com](mailto:lisa.taylor@rcn.com) or Michelle Mitchell, [michelle.d.mitchell@gmail.com](mailto:michelle.d.mitchell@gmail.com)

**GRADES:** Grades are a combination of tests and homework assignments. The general weighting is 90% tests/papers and 10% homework. Late work may be marked down. Missing assignments are shown with a Z in the grade book. Grades are visible on the ParentVUE and StudentVUE accounts and MyMCPSClassroom for students. MCPS grades on a semester basis (two semesters per year) **Semester 1 Grade:** 1st quarter + 2nd quarter = Final Course Grade **Semester 2 Grade:** 3rd quarter + 4th quarter = Final Course Grade (example: AA=A, AB=A, BA=A, AC=B) Only final course grades appear on the student’s transcript. If grades are missing, please know that teachers are not obligated to post grades until the end of the quarter. If assignments are missing, please have your student immediately follow up with the teacher.

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:** Students need a total of 22 credits to graduate: Four English, Four Math, Three Social Studies, Three Science, One Tech Ed, One Physical Education, One Health (this is a change starting with the class of 2025 – it used to be .5), One Fine Arts, and 4.5 other classes.

- Students earn a ½ credit for each class they successfully complete per semester. In order to earn the credit, they must earn a passing grade.
- Freshmen have a chance to earn 3 ½ credits in the first semester.
- Freshmen will have the opportunity to earn 7 credits by the end of the 9th grade year.
- In addition, they must complete 75 SSL hours and the Maryland State Exam requirements.

**GRADUATION:** Graduation is in early June. The date is determined by MCPS, usually in January or February. Last year, graduation was held at UMBC. Each student received six tickets – seniors who are graduating do not need a ticket to attend. Additional tickets are difficult to come by. Graduation plans will be announced during the second semester. Graduation day is a no-school day for 9-11<sup>th</sup> grade.

**HOMEWORK:** Students generally have homework in every class every night and also on the weekends. Breaks for Thanksgiving and other holidays are homework free.

**HOMECOMING:** For 2024, this is the weekend of October 4-5 at B-CC. It features a Friday night football game and a school-wide dance at B-CC and activities on Saturday Night. Tickets must be obtained in advance for the dance. Parent volunteers are needed for the dance coat check and concession stand. All grades should attend Homecoming!

**IB:** International Baccalaureate Program. This is a specific academic program at select high schools around the world. The IB Diploma Programme and all related courses begin in 11th Grade. Students may take either one or several IB courses or pursue an IB diploma. IB Students take international exams to receive their IB diplomas. The exams have a fee and are administered in May. Some IB classes are two-year courses, so exams are taken at the end of senior year. There are two levels of difficulty for IB classes – High Level (includes physics, history) and Standard Level (includes sports science, economics). <https://ib-bcc.com>

- Tenth grade students who are interested in taking IB courses or who want to pursue the full IB diploma, can register for courses in December of their 10th grade year.
- Informational meetings for 9th and 10th grade students and parents will be held mid-winter.

IB Diploma Coordinator: Christine Smithson: [Christine\\_Smithson@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Christine_Smithson@mcpsmd.org)

**Latino Families Parent Representatives:** Pablo and Zennia Paganini, [pablito8@aol.com](mailto:pablito8@aol.com), [zenniapaganini@gmail.com](mailto:zenniapaganini@gmail.com)

**LGBTQ+ Parent Representative:** Brigid Slipka, [brigid.slipka@gmail.com](mailto:brigid.slipka@gmail.com)

**LOCKERS:** Lockers are provided by request. (*Most students do not use lockers but choose to carry everything in their backpacks. It is often too difficult to get to your locker and make it to class on time.*) The Security desk in the front hallway will assign lockers to students who request them.

**LUNCH:** Lunch is from 11:13 – 11:54 (41 minutes). Students can eat anywhere around the school OR they can leave the school campus to go into Bethesda. There is only one lunch period. Students must return from lunch on time, otherwise, their open lunch privilege may be taken away. The school cafeteria is open and serves a variety of hot and cold food items. Lunch costs \$2.80; financial assistance is available for families who qualify. Students may pay cash or use a MySchoolBucks account. <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/food-and-nutrition/>

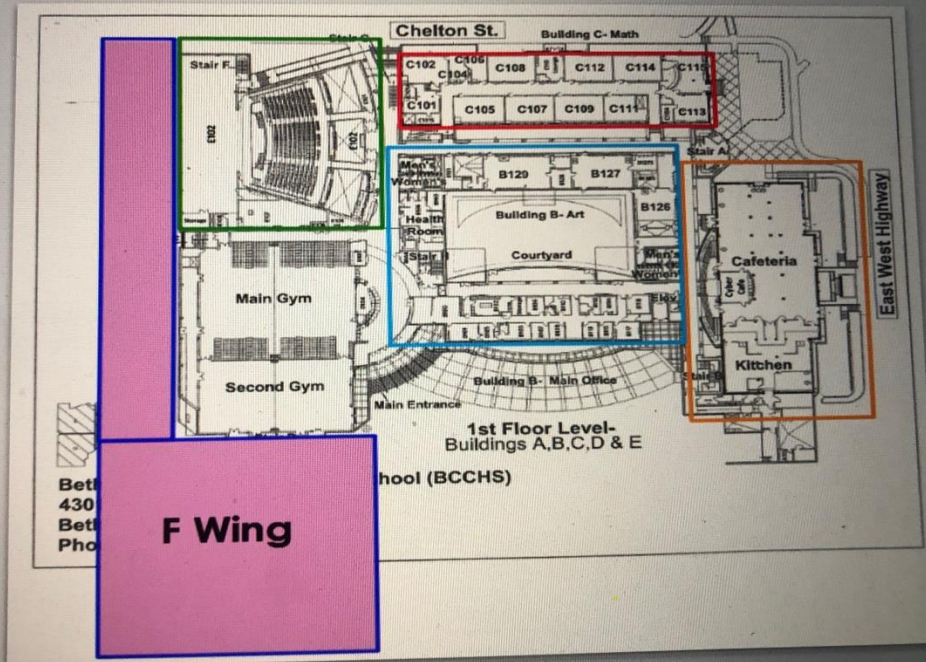
Many students bring lunch to school as well.

Some school clubs also meet during lunch. Some teachers are available for help during lunch and different academic honor societies offer tutoring during lunch. On Wellness Wednesdays, lunch is extended to give kids additional time to relax or venture off campus.

**MAIN OFFICE:** The B-CC Main Office is where you check into the school. It is also where you leave items such as lunch or books or musical instruments or athlete gear that have been forgotten. The Main Office Assistants are excellent at handling questions and solving problems. The phone number is 240-740-0400.

**MAP:** B-CC High School has six “wings” A, B, C, D, E, and F. History classes are usually in “A” rooms on the top floor, Languages and Math in “C” rooms on the side of the building, English, Engineering, and Computer Science in F, the newest wing, at the back of the school, and Science and Art in the “B” wing.

# Building Layout



**MYP/ Middle Years Programme:** Because B-CC is an International Baccalaureate® School, it has an (IB) **Middle Years Programme (MYP)**. All 9th and 10th grade students are **automatically** IB MYP students regardless of prior school. **Tenth graders complete a Personal Project** and spend approximately an average of 25 hours engaged in an investigation of a topic that is of personal interest to them. Each student has a faculty advisor and several meetings with the advisor. More information on the MYP Project will be provide by Mr. Louis during the fall. “MYP encourages students aged 11 to 16 to make practical connections between their studies and the real world, preparing them for success in further study and in life.”

[Berthony.Louis@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Berthony.Louis@mcpsmd.org)

**MAIN OFFICE:** Many questions can be easily resolved by a call to the Main Office. This is also the place where you will enter the school and where you will leave any items that your student may have forgotten. Main Office Number: 240-740-0400

**MINORITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM (MSP):** Open to all students of color at B-CC, MSP will improve the academic achievement of and educational opportunities available to minority students by increasing the numbers enrolled in Honors and/or Advanced Placement classes. Support is also provided to help them succeed, recognize their accomplishments, and provide

leadership opportunities to further their growth. MSP participates in visiting colleges, field trips (such as theatres and the African-American Museum), volunteering, peer tutoring, leadership and the Montgomery County Public School wide annual MSP retreat. They also sponsor and participate in our annual Diversity Showcase.

**NAACP REP:** Parent Representative Lisa Taylor, [lisa.taylor@rcn.com](mailto:lisa.taylor@rcn.com)

**Naviance:** The platform for the College Process **AND** the platform that counselors must use to contact parents. All students have a Naviance account, but each family/parent needs their own Naviance account as well to receive communications. If you do not have a Naviance account, please contact Ms. Heald. Please see Communications and the CCC website above.

**OMBUDSMAN:** MCPS has an Ombudsman to help handle unresolved issues: Ryvell Fitzpatrick.

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/about/ombudsman.aspx>

If you have an issue with an MCPS member or an MCPS issue that isn't being resolved, reach out to him. He is confidential. He is not an advocate. He will give guidance. Call 240-740-3030 or email him through the inbox. Direct emails may get lost so please use the inbox link.

<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/info/complaints.shtm>

**ParentVUE: (Please see communication for more info)** All families should have an active ParentVUE account. It is where you can see your student's grades, receive messages, get report cards, check schedules, register for sports, and other information. If you do not have a ParentVUE account or need help activating it, please write to your student's counselor.

**PARKING:** Seniors can park at the school if they have a parking pass. There are a small number of visitor spaces in the front parking lot. Parking assignments are based on a lottery system – students with internships have parking priority. If you park on a neighborhood street, you may receive a parking ticket. There is limited visitor parking at B-CC. The bus loop spaces can be used from 8 AM to 1:30 PM. Please do not use the teacher parking lot under the covered area. Parking questions should be directed to Ms. Claudette Eader, School Business Administrator.

**PAYMENTS:** All school obligations – including AP and IB exams -- must be paid through School Cash Online. Families need to create an account: School Cash Online: <https://www.schoolcashionline.com> — (this excludes sports tickets and cafeteria meals.)

**PHOTOS:** Student photos for the yearbook are taken during school. The provider for B-CC is Victor O'Neil Studios. You can order prints from Victor O'Neil. Some packages are expensive.

**PLATFORMS:** MCPS and B-CC use at least three separate communication platforms. You will receive email from many sources, often with a NO-Reply or a donotreply address. Please see "Communication" for more information.

**PROM:** This is a big dance event in the spring for the senior class. **Prom for the Class of 2025 is planned for May 23, 2025.**

**PTSA Peer Parents:** Each grade has peer parents who help organize events and can assist fellow parents. If you would like to get involved, please contact Kerry Green at [greenkm@umd.edu](mailto:greenkm@umd.edu).

**PTSA Used Book Sale:** This is the PTSA's largest fundraiser and community event of the year. It is held in March. It is a great way for students to earn SSL hours – and they do not have to submit any forms. (We are hopeful it will be returning this year...) For more information, please contact Sarah Mitchell, [sarah.athome@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.athome@gmail.com), and/or Andra Chernack, [arccc3@gmail.com](mailto:arccc3@gmail.com).

**SCHEDULE ISSUES:** If your student has a scheduling issue: for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade, it often helps to have the parents email the counselor and the AP assigned to you. Juniors and Seniors can usually handle the issues themselves – only if it is not resolved do parents need to step in. Please note, you can change from an AP or IB class to an honors or on-level for the second semester of the year, if you do not change by the second week of school.

**Scheduling issues are addressed at the beginning of each semester in this order: Top Priority:**

**Hole in the Schedule:** If you are missing a class during any period, please see the counselor to complete your schedule. Report to the counseling office during the period for which you have the hole.

**Repeat Class:** If you have a class on your schedule that you have already taken for which you have earned a passing grade, contact your counselor. Let them know the class for which you should have earned credit, and the counselor will investigate to make an adjustment.

**Double Booked:** If you have two classes in the same period, let the counselor know. The counselor will enroll you in another period for one of the classes.

**Wrong Class:** Not the course you signed up for? Missing a class that you need to complete a diploma or pathway? Please contact the counselor and AP immediately.

**First week of school** (only these problems will be addressed):

- A hole in the schedule
- Double Booked
- Wrong Class (not including electives)
- Repeat Class

**Second Week of School:**

- Elective or level (e.g. moving from AP to honors or on-level; moving math classes) changes permitted

**Third Week of School:**

- Deadline to change an elective course.

## The 25th Day:

- The deadline for any schedule changes. No changes to any schedule are permitted after the 25th day. Course grades will still appear on the transcript.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** Each teacher will tell students what supplies are needed in their class on the first day. Most students do not use binders – they are too difficult to carry around. Spiral and composition notebooks and folders are the most popular. Nearly all math students will need a TI -84 Plus graphing calculator. (Texas Instruments). Refurbished models are cheaper. The math department has some available for students to use.

**SGA:** Student Government Association. These are students who work with the school administration and help plan student activities and serve as a student voice. There are grade level and school level SGA reps. Additionally, each school class runs a very helpful Instagram account for students to get information. bccsga22, Bccsga23, bccsga24, bccsga25. There is also a **school-wide B-CC Instagram account, @officialbcchs and a PTSA Instagram account @bcc\_ptsa.**

**INCLUSIVE (SPECIAL) EDUCATION:** This is a designation for students with IEP or 504 plans, which are education modification plans. They may allow for extra time on assignments or other changes based on a diagnosed student disability. IEP plans have a case manager, 504 plans require student advocacy. You can learn more about 504 plans [here](#) and IEP plans [here](#).

If you have further questions, you can contact the PTSA Inclusive Education Committee: Sheryl Raskin ([raskinsa@gmail.com](mailto:raskinsa@gmail.com)) or Laura Wides-Muñoz ([lwides@msn.com](mailto:lwides@msn.com)).

**SPORTS TICKETS:** Many sports – football, basketball, etc. – require tickets to attend. Tickets must be purchased online. They are no longer sold at the gate. MCPS uses GoFan: sports tickets <https://gofan.co/search> — search up B-CC. You can buy a season or year pass. Passes cannot be used for playoff games.

**SSL HOURS:** These are Student Service Learning Hours. All students must complete 75 SSL hours to be able to graduate high school. They are earned through pre-approved service projects. **\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** SSL forms must be submitted online, and a Google form must be filled out. Paper forms and emailed forms will no longer be accepted.

All SSL Activity Verification forms must be submitted here: <https://forms.gle/75rWwfE2gYG6Ujpr5>

For more information, please contact your student’s counselor. SSL hour opportunities are often posted on the PTSA listserv.

**STATE TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION:** Students must successfully pass Maryland State Assessments in these areas. B-CC will communicate the testing requirements. If you have specific questions, please email your student’s counselor.

- Algebra 1

- English 10
- Maryland Comprehensive Assessment Program ([MCAP](#))—counts as 20% of Semester B grade.
  - Life Science for students enrolled in Biology (9<sup>th</sup> grade)
  - Government assessment (10<sup>th</sup> grade, unless taking the AP test)

**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:** MCPS has a student code of conduct – [here](#) is the link to the code of conduct and to rights and responsibilities.

**STUDENT IDs:** These are made and distributed when students have their official yearbook photos in school. IDs are required to enter the school building and must be shown to security.

**SYNERGY:** This is the brand name for ParentVUE and StudentVUE. You will see messages that say ParentVUE, powered by Synergy. (The name Synergy is not something you need to worry about, except that sometimes MCPS talks about Synergy. When they do, it is referring to ParentVUE and StudentVUE – see **Communications** for more information and explanations.)

**RESOURCE TEACHERS:** These are the department heads for each academic department. They are the leaders for the teachers in that department and also work with the school administration. If you have not received a satisfactory response from a teacher about a classroom or academic issue, you can reach out to the Resource Teacher listed in [Staff Directory](#) on the B-CC High School Website for help.

**TECH SUPPORT:** MCPS has a tech support department for issues with its platforms: [communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org](mailto:communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org)

**TUTORING:** There are two good options for student academic tutoring

**\*Time for Academic Progress (TAP)**

Free after school tutoring from Science, Math, English, and Social Studies teachers. No appointment necessary, just drop in for help! (Financial support provided by the B-CC Educational Foundation)

**\*Peer Partners**

Get set up with an older student who’s done well in the course you need help in. You and your partner will meet once a week (you two decide when) for help sessions. You must contact Ms. Kate Heald ([Catharine E Heald@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Catharine_E_Heald@mcpsmd.org)) in the College and Career Center to get matched with a partner.

**\*Math and Science Honor Societies, and English and French and Spanish Honor Societies** also offer tutoring. Please check with your counselor about when those options are available.



**WELLBEING WEDNESDAYS:** Approximately once a month, class periods will be shortened to allow the school to do school-wide wellness programming after second period. These days also include an extended lunch period. Here is a [link](#) to Wellbeing Wednesday schedule.

**WRITING TO A TEACHER, COUNSELOR, OR ADMINISTRATOR:**

Please include your student’s full name, their grade, and student ID number (the number is particularly important for the counselor or administrator.) Teachers and staff have 48 hours during business days to respond to an email – i.e. if you write on Friday afternoon, expect a reply by Tuesday afternoon. If you do not receive a reply from a teacher, please write again. You may include the department resource teacher or counselor on that second email. For a second note to a counselor, please include the administrator assigned to your last name on the email.

**YEARBOOK:** B-CC has a student-produced yearbook. It must be ordered by families. The yearbook staff frequently posts order links on the PTSA listserv. It is less expensive in the fall. Each year, we have families who are disappointed that they forgot to order a yearbook. Please do not delay if you want a yearbook and please make sure you have received an order confirmation email. Order through [yearbookordercenter.com](http://yearbookordercenter.com). BCC code is 4951

**YOUTH FOR EQUITY:** Student-led organization of youth dedicated to providing equitable learning spaces for all. They hold regular town hall meetings and discussions on equity issues and represent all voices.