Beacon Hill Community School

2026-2027 Student-Parent Handbook

Grades K-12

P.O. Box 285
8746 Market St.
Mt. Eaton, OH 44659

(330) 359-5600 Phone
(330) 359-6197 Fax

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Welcome

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year at Beacon Hill! We are so excited to start our third year as a K-12 school. Our staff looks forward to the many experiences we will share throughout your child's educational journey. Thank you for partnering with us for your family's educational needs.

Beacon Hill provides educational programing focused on academic, social, and emotional growth for each student. Our innovative school curriculum provides opportunities for each student to explore and make discoveries about self and community. We encourage students to reach beyond perceived limitations to solve problems of today and tomorrow. Students are encouraged to expand upon daily habits of good character traits, leadership skills, and a sense of community within the school.

The staff at Beacon Hill looks forward to a fun, successful and rewarding school year for each student.

Joy Zuercher-Pyle
Superintendent

Mission: Providing a guiding light for our community's career and educational needs.
We work closely with our families and community to offer unique, personalized educational opportunities for all students. Our innovative and engaging educational program utilizes a blend of traditional classroom experiences, online platforms and integrated career-oriented experiences to optimize student success.

Purpose of Handbook
The Student and Parent handbook provides information about board policies, school procedures and provides answers to commonly asked questions. The Student/Parent Handbook is an important reference guide to help families understand our school structures and the various student opportunities.
This handbook replaces all prior handbooks and materials on the same subjects.

Annual Notices

Distributing Statement
Beacon Hill Community School is a community school established under Chapter 3314 of the Revised Code. The school is a public school and students enrolled in and attending the school are required to take Ohio Proficiency Assessments and other examinations prescribed by law. In addition, there may be other requirements for students at the school that are prescribed by law. Students who have been excused from the compulsory attendance law for the purpose of home education as defined by the Administrative Code shall no longer be excused for that purpose upon their enrollment in a community school. For more information about this matter contact the school administration or the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce (DEW).

Parent's Right-to-Know
Parent/Guardian,
You have the right to know about the teaching qualifications of your child's classroom teacher in a school receiving Title I funds. The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that any school district receiving Title I funds must notify parents of each student attending any school receiving Title I funds that they may request, and the district will provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including at a minimum, the following:

I. Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
II. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and

III. Whether the teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher;
IV. Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and if so, their qualifications.

You may ask for the information by phone or e-mail to the above listed phone number or e-mail address. Be sure to give the following information with your request: Child's Full Name, Parent/Guardian Full Name, Address, City, State, Zip, and Teacher's Name.

Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

This Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities serves as a guide for students as they learn and grow through the School's educational process. Rights are given according to the student's maturity and to the extent the rights do not interfere with the student's responsibilities.

Right to be Respected

- Each student has a right to be treated equally and fairly.
- All individuals have a right to be respected, accepted, and heard. Students, staff, teachers, and administrators will be respectful in their actions and thoughts.
- Each student has a right to learn in a safe environment. The learning environment will be free of verbal and physical threats, harassment, and intimidation and bullying. No individual may commit, encourage, or assist in such acts.

Right to Learn

- Students shall have the responsibility to learn and to respect the rights of others to learn.
- Each student has a right to ask questions so long as the questions are presented respectfully and pertain to the lesson.
- Students shall respect the rights of others to teach.
- Each student has a right to a productive, disruptive-free learning environment. To ensure this, students must dress, behave, and act accordingly.

Student Discipline

- Each student has the right to access and understand the rules and behaviors to which they are subjected before they are punished.

Expression & Communication

- Each student has a right to express differing viewpoints and to disagree with statements and policies. Expression must be done respectfully and without disrupting class. In doing so, student must recognize and respect the rights of others.

Property

- Each student has a right to own and possess his or her property. All searches and seizures must be done in accordance with the School's Search and Seizure Policy. All property must be treated with respect.

Beacon Hill Community School hereby gives notice that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap in the educational programs and activities operated by the district.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice for Directory Information

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, and Ohio Law require the School to protect the privacy of student records.

- As a parent you, or your child—if your child is 18 or older—has the right to inspect and review the student's education records, request that the School correct records, and provide written permission to release student records. All requests to inspect, review, and release are to be done in accordance with the school's policies. For more specific information, see policy 218.
- Directory information may be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that publish yearbooks. The school has designated the following information as directory information: Name, Grade Level.

Beacon Hill Community School 2026-2027 Staff

Administrative:

Joy Zuercher-Pyle	Superintendent/Math
Megan Stryker	Elementary Principal
Tammy Graf	Administrative Assistant
Joanne Horner	Administrative Assistant
Sandy Hadsell	Treasurer
Judy Kestner	Compliance Coordinator

Teaching & Support Staff:

Grace (Tharp) Shaffner	Kindergarten
Chelsea Snow	1st Grade
Mattie Miller	2nd Grade
Samantha Chupp	3rd Grade
Melinda Neidenthal	4th Grade Elementary Intervention Specialist
Amanda (Hardman) Walker	5th & 6th Math/Lead Teacher/Intervention Specialist
Jonathan Ratcliff	5th & 6th Social Studies & Science, Title Tutor
Tammy Berg	5th & 6th English Language Arts/Title/EL
Gracie Shreve	5th & 6th Pre Home Ec/Trades Teacher, Home Ec & K-12 Art
Joy Zuercher-Pyle	7-9 Math
Gabriela Verginis	7-10 English Language Arts
Darin Winkler	5-8 Science
Cole Duskey	7-8 Social Studies/High School Coordinator/Tutor
Sonia Mullins	Middle/High School Intervention Specialist
Andrew Spencer	Outdoor Trades/Intramurals
Rosanna D. Miller	Title 1 Tutor (K-4)
Rosanna M. Miller	Elementary Language Support (K-4)
Jennifer Frazier	Custodian
Javel Bauman	Custodial Assistant
Katie Schlabach	Head Cook
Sharon Mast	Kitchen Assistant
Jackie Schrock	School Nurse

Speech, Occupational Therapy, and Psychiatrist services as needed, contracted through the Tri-County ESC and EJ Herman Therapy.

General Schedule and Logistics/Procedures

School Hours

	Arrival	Departure
Grades 5-12	7:30-7:45	2:00-2:15
Grades K-4	9:00-9:15	3:00-3:15

Transportation

Families should fill out a BHCS Transportation Arrangements form to let the school know how they plan for their children to get to and from school daily. Expectations for transportation by bus and by bike are available as attachments to this handbook. Please review the expectations for the appropriate transportation method for your child; then sign and return the corresponding form.

Buses

Transportation from the local school district is available for students living in Waynedale, East Holmes, and Garaway districts. Depending on grade level and location of residence, some students living in Fairless may also be able to use school transportation. School bus transportation is a privilege. When a student's behavior on the bus is such that it puts the safety of others in jeopardy or when a student repeatedly violates bus rules, he/she may be suspended from riding the bus by the school leadership. Any student who does not have access to school-district transportation will qualify to receive an in-lieu-of-transportation payment from the district of residence.

Other Forms of Transportation

Students may also arrive by driver, bike, or by walking. All walkers and bikers act independently on their way to school, and Beacon Hill is not responsible for walkers or bikers after they leave the school grounds. Biking or walking to school is a responsibility that should not be taken lightly.

Transportation Changes

Whatever transportation method is typical for a student, they will be required to use that method daily unless the school has a request from the parent requesting the change. If there is a change in plans from the routine of your child's daily transportation, the parent/guardian must notify the office (by written note or phone call) prior to their dismissal. **Students going home with another student must have those plans in place prior to the beginning of the school day.** A student will not be permitted to change the transportation arrangements from school to home without direct authorization from the parent or guardian. Only under emergency circumstances will students be permitted to use the phone to make these plans during the school day. This is done for your child's protection.

Students cannot, at any time, ride the bus for a district other than the one in which they reside, due to safety limitations and liabilities for transporting districts.

Pick-up/drop-off Expectations

Students who are being driven daily should be delivered and picked up from the main entrance between the scheduled arrival and departure times for their grade band. Students who are arriving or departing outside of the scheduled arrival and departure times for their grade band will need to enter with their parent or guardian through the main entrance and report to the office to be signed out/signed in.

Sending Money to School

Any money that is sent to school should be in an envelope, and on the outside should be clearly labeled with their child/children's names, grades, amount, and the purpose for which it has been sent.

Food Service Prices & Procedure

26-27 Meal Prices for Students
Breakfast: $1.50
Lunch: $3.50

Beacon Hill offers breakfast as well as a hot lunch daily for any student who wants to purchase it in accordance with National Dietary Guidelines. The school works together with the National School lunch program to provide these meals for free or at reduced cost to students whose families qualify. Forms for qualification are provided at the beginning of the year. If at any time during the year, a family believes their qualification status may have changed, they may resubmit the paperwork to reassess their qualification.

In accordance with state and federal requirements, the school cannot refuse food to a student who is requesting a meal, and charges will be applied appropriately. Families should communicate with their students about expectations with purchase of

school meals.
The school office will keep running accounts for every family in regards to payments for school lunches. Families may pay as far ahead in advance as they wish. Any remaining balance at the end of the school year will be returned to them. To reduce the challenges of daily banking needs, the school requests that meal payments are only sent to the school on the first day of the school week. *See below above guidelines in submitting money to the school.*

Limited School Supplies Available for Purchase

Students need to have the proper supplies at school daily. We know that some of these supplies are not as readily available, especially those related to technology. Earbuds ($2), earbud cases ($3), and flash drives ($5) are available in the school office for purchase, especially for those students in grades 5-12.
Flash drives will be provided to all students in grades 5-12 at the beginning of the school year for saving and submitting student work. If the flash drive is lost or is not turned in (in working condition) at the end of the year, the student will be charged $5 to replace the flash drive. If students need earbuds (to start the year or to replace lost/broken earbuds), the parent can choose to have the student purchase a pair from the school office or can send in a new pair of earbuds from home.

Lost and Found

A lost-and-found bin is provided in the hallway at the entrance of the gym for lost articles found in the building. Please label hats, coats, boots, gloves, balls and lunch boxes to reduce unclaimed items. Lost items such as money, wallet, watches, glasses will be kept in the office until claimed. The school is not responsible for items lost. If items are not claimed by the end of the year, they will be given to a needy family, a thrift store, or a non-profit organization in need of donations.

Student Use of School Phone

Students are permitted to use the school phone in case of emergency or illness; this should not become a frequent occurrence. Students must obtain permission from a staff member before making a call.

BHCS Student Attendance

Daily attendance is vital to student success. Our staff strives to lead classrooms in a way that cannot be replicated by a paper-packet of schoolwork to be completed off-site. However, we recognize that there are occasional times where your child will not be able to attend school.

Reporting Absences

If you are aware ahead of time that your child will be missing school, call or send in a written note letting us know that your child will be absent and why. If your child is absent without prior notice (such as personal illness), a parent/guardian must call in by one hour of the start of school to report the absence. If the school has not heard from a parent or guardian by two hours of the start of school when a student is not in attendance, school personnel are required by state law to call home to check on the student. The parent/guardian must then send in a written note documenting the child's absence (with the child's name, the date, and the reason for absence) upon their return in order for it to be documented as *excused*.

Excused Absences

Excused absences include absences such as those due to: physical/mental illness, serious illness or death in the family, religious holidays that align with the student's truly held beliefs, medical/dental appointments, quarantines, required court appearances, or other reasonable emergencies. A written note documenting the absence and the reason must be provided to the school upon the student's return, or else the absence will be documented as *unexcused*. The administrator has the right to determine the validity of excused absences beyond ten days in the school year; absences due to personal illness beyond ten days may require a doctor's note to be documented as excused. As required by state policy, students may be absent for up to three full religious expression school days each year (based upon sincerely-held religious beliefs) with no penalty. **Please note that parents/guardians are encouraged to make medical/dental appointments for times other than school hours whenever possible.**

Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences are those that do not fall into the above categories, as well as days exceeding allowable vacations. Students with excessive absences (more than 60 hours) due to illness may be required to provide a doctor's note for further absences in order to avoid the hours being documented as unexcused. Unexcused absences contribute to potential absence intervention and truancy filings.

Missed Assignments/Schoolwork

The school will not provide work to students prior to absences, especially for vacations or other extended-absences. Rather, each student can get their missing work after their absence and will have time to complete it. Additionally, students can use knowledge of long-standing activities and projects to work ahead if the absence is anticipated. In grades 5-12, every student will be assigned an absence buddy who will document and collect the activities and assignments for the day. The absent student will get this information upon their return. Students will be provided an extra day to complete the assignments for every day they were absent.

Excessive Absences

The state of Ohio requires close tracking of student attendance in order to ensure that students are present at school regularly in order to maximize potential for student learning. The school will send home a letter regarding attendance for any student who misses more than 38 hours of school in a month or 65 hours in a school year. This letter is a warning about attendance concerns and no further action is taken with the state unless further absences result in habitual truancy concerns. The school may accompany the letter with a phone call to discuss any concerns that could be contributing to the absences. However, if the school needs to send a second letter regarding monthly excessive absences, or a first letter regarding annual excessive absences, school leadership may require an in-person meeting with the student and parent/guardian to discuss and resolve any concerns that are contributing to the student's absences.

Truancy

By state law, any student who has unexcused absences for 1) 30 or more consecutive hours, 2) 42 hours in one school month, or 3) 72 or more school hours in one school year will be considered habitually truant. When a student hits the truancy thresholds, the school will be required to report the absence record to the state, compile an Absence Intervention Team, host a meeting, and work with the student and their parent/guardian to create an Absence Intervention Plan to improve attendance. Please note that Beacon Hill seeks to resolve issues before it comes to this stage. If attendance concerns persist, the school may be required to file truancy with the state and juvenile court system. If attendance improves sufficiently, no further action may be necessary.

Emergency Cancellations and Early Dismissals

The administrator shall make all decisions regarding calamity days that require the School to be closed. Closings may be made because of hazardous weather, disease epidemic, utility failure, or other conditions that jeopardize the health and safety of those affiliated with the School—or the closure of transporting districts for the aforementioned reasons. As deemed necessary, the Superintendent may close the school, delay the opening of the school, or dismiss school early. Should a calamity day be declared, school-related activities will be canceled. If school is canceled for any reason, usually because of bad weather conditions, families will be notified through Beacon Hill Alerts and the Remind App. New parents/guardians and students should subscribe to "Beacon Hill Alerts" as soon as possible to be sure to receive a text message, voice message, and/or an email for any change to the school day; subscriptions only need to be completed one time as they roll over from year-to year. To subscribe, please complete the form that is sent home early in the school year. This alert is managed by the Wireless Emergency Notification System (WENS).

Families can contact their classroom teacher or the school office to ensure enrollment in the Remind App programming for the school and their child's specific grade level. These messages can come through a text message; they do not require that families have a smart device.

If school must close early on a given day due to inclement weather, or other emergency, it will also be announced through these methods. Talk to your child about what they are to do in case they must return home early and call the school if you have questions. The school must be notified if normal plans are changed.

Extended School Closure

In the event of an extended school closure, the school may need to utilize the Online Learning Plan, as required by the state of Ohio. This full plan is available upon request in the school office and utilizes completion of Quarterly Projects from home and options for online-based communication and instruction to fulfill learning hours for the school. Families will be given a survey at the beginning of each school year to indicate if they would like to access any internet-based learning time during Online Learning Days.

Extended-Absence Requests (Vacations)

Beacon Hill values and desires to support quality family time; simultaneously, we acknowledge the challenge—for both student and teacher(s) that comes with an extended-absence due to a family vacation. Our teachers strive to prepare meaningful, interactive lessons that cannot be fully replicated through written or digital work, and we have seen firsthand the immense stress on both student and teacher to get caught up on schoolwork and concepts upon their return (see *Missed Assignments/Schoolwork* above). We ask that our families be thoughtful with the planning of any vacations that extend beyond 5 days and consider our school schedule to plan family vacations that minimize missed days of school by coinciding with scheduled days off.

Extended-Absence (Vacation) Request packets are available in the school office upon request. This packet includes all the information presented here as well as additional details and expectations.

The following are examples of extended-absences that may be approved as excused by school leadership if requested <u>at least two weeks in advance</u>:

1. Family reunions or hunting trips (2-3 days absence)
2. Family vacations (up to 6 days excused absence may be approved)
3. Specific, unique cases arranged between the school leadership and parent

Requesting these vacation absences should be considered seriously, and no more than ten total days should be taken in a school year towards family trips/vacations. Please note that only six days of approved vacation will be approved to be documented as excused absence. These hours of absence will count towards excessive absence counts, but will be permitted if regular school attendance is not a concern for the student outside of the requested trip.

Anything beyond six days of absence for vacation will be recorded as unexcused absences. According to state law, after 30 or more consecutive hours of unexcused absence, a student is considered habitually truant and the absences must be reported to the state (see *Truancy* above). At Beacon Hill, five consecutive days of unexcused absence will reach this threshold.

Withdrawal of Enrollment

By law, a student will be withdrawn from the school automatically if the student has an unexcused absence for 105 consecutive learning hours (approximately 16 school days). A student may be voluntarily withdrawn (such as to transfer schools or to homeschool) if a parent submits a written withdrawal notice to the school office.

For more specific information on Attendance, Absences, and Truancy, see BHCS board policy #207.

BHCS Academic Achievement and Expectations

Grading Scale

Grades K-2
Progress in each area will be shown as **N** (Does not meet expectations), +(Meets Expectations), or √ (Exceeds Expectations)

Grading Scale for 3rd-12th grade					
A+	99-100	**A**	94-96	**A-**	92-93
B+	90-91	**B**	85-89	**B-**	83-84
C+	81-82	**C**	76-80	**C-**	74-75
D+	72-73	**D**	67-71	**D-**	65-66
F	0-64				

Honor Roll- a student must maintain a 3.5-4.0 average for all subjects for entire grading period.
Merit Roll- a student must maintain a 3.0-3.49 average for all subjects for entire grading period.
▪ Both distinctions require a "C" or higher in all subjects.

Ohio Curriculum Standards

Beacon Hill aligns its instruction to the current state academic standards while working diligently to ensure that content is delivered in ways that are appropriate and relevant to our student's lives and futures. If you are interested in seeing a copy of the standards for a specific grade level and subject, they are available on the Ohio Department of Education website, or contact the school office and we can provide you with a printed copy.

School-Parent Contract

The School-Parent Contract is an annually reviewed agreement given to families that outlines how the school, parents, and students agree to work together for the best possible educational outcomes for the student. The school seeks parent feedback into the programming available to students through both written surveys and an annual meeting, typically in May in conjunction with the Spring Student Showcase. A school Parental Involvement Policy is available in the office upon request.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for September/October and February. Dates are listed on the family event calendar annually and detailed information is sent home in advance regarding dates and schedules. For our fall conferences, a sign-up for time-slots is available at the school Open House in August. Parents are urged to participate in the conferences; we would love to have 100% participation for the fall conferences.

Teachers or parents may request additional conferences as needed throughout the year. Prior arrangements for additional conferences are scheduled by phone or a written note. Impromptu conferences during classroom instruction time are not appropriate and will not be permitted.

English Learners

According to state law, Beacon Hill must collect a language survey from all students upon enrollment. If the language survey indicates that the student may qualify as an English Learner, Beacon Hill is required to perform an OELPS language screener in the first 30 days of school, as long as the student has not completed it in a previous year or is not already identified as an EL student from a previous school. For any student who is identified as an English Learner, parents will be notified by letter; this letter will be written in the native language of the student unless the student's native language is not a written language. Students identified as English learners receive extra supports built into the curriculum, especially surrounding vocabulary, and they will be annually retested in the spring to assess language growth. For further information about the EL process and program, parents can request the EL Guide from the school office or talk with the 26-27 EL Coordinator, Tammy Berg.

Language Use

English should be spoken at all times during school hours. This includes class transitions, bathroom breaks, lunch, and bus rides. The only exception is during foreign language classes. Students in 5-12 should expect consequences for violating this rule. If violation is habitual, an alternative consequence/plan may be developed for that student.

Promotion/ Retention

A student must pass three out of four core courses of study or retention in that grade level may occur. Parents will be notified and consulted by the end of the second grading period if retention is being considered.

High School Programming

Beacon Hill's high school curriculum is delivered through classroom instruction and the online platform Edgenuity. Students are expected to attend school daily in person, but are permitted to log in from home in the evenings and weekends to complete coursework for online-based classes. High school may be permitted to take home their school laptop with parent/guardian permission. Any student who does not complete high school curriculum towards diploma should expect to be ineligible to enroll in most state universities in Ohio without completion of further coursework.

Credit Flexibility Policy

Beacon Hill has options for credit flexibility in regards to earning high school credit. If you are interested in learning more about this option, refer to BHCS board policy 227.

State Assessments

As a public school in Ohio, Beacon Hill must annually administer state assessments that are required by state law. Each student must take the required assessments for their grade level. Parents may request more detailed assessment policy by contacting the school office.

Beacon Hill provides its high school students the opportunity to take state assessments at the end of first semester as well as in the spring. Students in grades 3-8 take their state assessments within the testing windows provided by ODE. The school has a testing schedule that is available on the school website (and included below), and these dates are typically provided to parents at the beginning of each school year on the family event calendar. These dates are NOT flexible, and no vacations can be approved during these dates. Please ensure that your student will be in attendance for state testing.

Ohio State Tests	
Language Arts 3-8	
3rd Grade Language Arts	Fall: October 20-21. 2026; Spring: April 20-21, 2027
4th Grade Language Arts	April 20-21, 2027
5th Grade Language Arts	April 15, 2027
6th Grade Language Arts	April 20, 2027
7th Grade Language Arts	April 27, 2027
8th Grade Language Arts	April 22, 2027
Math 3-8	
3rd – 4th Grade Math	April 27-28, 2027
5th Grade Math	April 27, 2027
6th Grade Math	April 15, 2027
7th Grade Math	April 22, 2027
8th Grade Math	April 20, 2027
Science 5 and 8	
5th Grade Science	April 20, 2027
8th Grade Science	April 27, 2027
High School End of Course Exams	
English II	Fall Window: January 11-15, 2027; Spring: April 20, 2027
Algebra I	Fall Window: January 11-15, 2027; Spring: April 15, 2027
Geometry	Fall Window: January 11-15, 2027; Spring: April 15, 2027
Biology	Fall Window: January 11-15, 2027; Spring: April 27, 2027
American History	Fall Window: January 11-15, 2027; Spring: April 22, 2027
Government	Fall Window: January 11-15, 2027; Spring: April 22, 2027

BHCS Technology & Media

Internet & Technology Acceptable Use

Teaching our students how to use technology responsibly is important for preparation for our students' long-term futures. Please review the attached Acceptable Internet & Technology Use Agreement form with your child. Please notice that this agreement acknowledges both appropriate activities and content accessed on the device as well as the expectations for the care of the devices. *Please read carefully before signing. In order to access and use the technology, the network, and internet, students must read this policy and submit a signed agreement form.* Please note that if your child uses or transports a school device (laptop) irresponsibly in a way that causes damage, your family may be charged for the cost of repairing the damage. This Agreement is an abbreviated version of policy # 222 in our board policy manual, which can be requested in the school office.

Personal Use of Mobile Electronic Devices

We know that some of our student population have personal electronic devices, including cell phones, smart watches, tablets, or video gaming devices, among others. We recommend that students do not carry personal electric devices to and from school every day, but we recognize that this is the personal choice of our families. Beacon Hill is not responsible for theft, loss, damage, or destruction of devices carried on school transportation or brought on to school property; students are solely responsible for devices they bring on school property.

If students in grades K-8 carry a device, they are not to have any personal devices on them during the school day. This includes smart watches. Rather, all personal devices must be turned off and placed in the student's backpack before entering the school building, and it should remain the student's backpack (untouched) until the student leaves the building after the school day is over. Students may only use the devices during the regular school day when an BHCS staff member permits it directly for a specific purpose, or in emergency situations that present an imminent physical danger.

Any student found to be accessing/using their personal device during the school day without direct permission from school personnel will be required to hand the device over to the school office. On the first offense, the student will be permitted to retrieve the device from the office at the end of the school day, and parents will be contacted regarding the incident. In the event of a second (or more) offense, the device will need to be picked up directly by the parent/guardian from the school office.

Any use of personal devices on school transportation must follow the guidelines of the transporting school district. For more specific information in regards to the use of personal devices, see board policy 241.

Beacon Hill Publication of Student Work/Pictures

We love the share the awesome learning that is happening at Beacon Hill, and we also strive to be responsible and respectful in sharing specific details about our students in our community! Please review the "Permission for Publication of Student Work, Pictures, and Name" form with your child and indicate the choice that is most appropriate for your family. We only need one form per family unless you prefer otherwise.

BHCS Student Behavioral Expectations

General Building Expectations

Hallways & Stairs:

1. Everyone should **walk** in the hallways.
2. Voices should be quiet inside the building.
3. Stair steps should be taken one at a time.
4. Never interrupt classes in session without staff permission first.

Restrooms:

1. Always flush and wash hands after using the toilet.
2. Use limited amounts of paper towels, and then throw into wastebasket.
3. Keep voices low.
4. One person in a toilet stall at a time.
5. Never stand or climb on toilet seats or hang on dividers
6. **Do not loiter in the restrooms**, including between classes, during break times, or during lunch.

Food & Drink, Gum:

1. Students may carry a reusable, sealed water bottle; only water may be in this container.
2. Students are not to have energy drinks or other caffeinated beverages at school, outside of specific teacher-approved occasions.
3. Candy, and snacks are only permitted with teacher permission, and on special occasions.
4. Gum is permitted in grades 5-12 if handled responsibly. All gum and wrappings should be properly disposed of in the trash can, and use of gum should not be a distraction in class (no cracking or bubbles). Issues with gum may result in the removal of all gum use in the building.
4. Any gum, candy or snacks that are permitted should be handled responsibly; no mess should come from their use.

Dress and Grooming

Students should dress with common sense, cleanliness, and appropriateness in regards to the style and content (images and words) of their clothing. Student's physical appearance should not be a distraction to student learning. Parents should take responsibility of seeing that their children are properly dressed for school and the weather conditions:

- Students should dress prepared for outdoor recreation during physical education and appropriate classes, such as outdoor trades. A separate pair of clean athletic shoes should be worn during indoor gym activities**.**
- Appropriate shoes are necessary daily to protect students' health and safety. All footwear must be securely attached to the foot for students' safety in the school building, in areas with steps, on the playground, and entering/exiting a school bus; sandals must have a secure strap across the back of the foot. Flip flops are not permitted.
- Clothing should provide appropriate body coverage;
    - No midriffs, bare torsos, or cleavage may be showing.
    - No underclothes are to be visible, whether directly or by thin/transparent fabric.
    - No tank tops or spaghetti straps permitted.
    - Any shorts must be fingertip/mid-thigh length.
    - Any rips/frays/holes in bottoms (shorts, pants, skirts) must either be below the knee or patched/covered.
    - Any article of clothing advertising alcohol, tobacco, weapons, politics, or any obscenity is strictly prohibited. In general, clothing should send positive messages and be community-building in nature.
- Student attire should not restrict comfortable movement as necessary throughout the school day.
- Except for religious or medical reasons, caps, hoods, hats & headscarves must be removed when inside the building.

Student Personal Conduct & Discipline

Students are expected to conduct themselves respectfully and with strong character on a daily basis in relation to themselves, to other persons and to the property of those around them; this is crucial for a healthy learning environment. While we expect and seek the best, we recognize that a system of discipline and accountability is necessary for situations when the expectations are not met.

School Discipline & Accountability

Beacon Hill staff seeks to "catch students" being positive, and staff utilize Beacon Bucks (K-4) and Tickets (5-12) to reward positive behaviors and promote good choices. These Bucks can be cashed in for a wide variety of prizes.

Grades K-4 Classroom Behavioral Interventions:

Negative student behaviors will be addressed swiftly, directly, and appropriately as they arise, and school administration will be involved as necessary. The staff at Beacon Hill makes all attempts to utilize natural consequences to fit negative behavior, with consideration of the level of the behavior (see Tiers below). Student consequences could include removal from a class activity or free time, a meeting with school administration, extra responsibilities—especially if it directly ties to resolving a problem caused by the student's negative behavior—or an instructional suspension for more serious offenses.

Grades 5-12 Classroom Behavioral Interventions:

The Golden Ticket program encourages positive behavior and respect among students by providing accountability for choices. Teachers are encouraged to utilize appropriate classroom accountability that promotes the school mission, with consideration of the Tiers listed below. Simultaneously, students will be issued one Golden Ticket per week, which serves as their admission ticket to Fun Friday activities, which takes place during the final study hall period of the week. Tickets must be "clean" (no staff discipline signatures) and all academics caught up for students to fully participate; students with missing assignments will not be released to Fun Friday until all assignments are submitted.
Example actions that may constitute staff signatures (blemishes) are disrespect (student or staff), inappropriate language, horseplay, lack of responsibility (such as late homework assignments), consistent violation of classroom rules/expectations. This list is not exhaustive and only serves as an example of Tier 1 and some Tier 2 offenses (see below). Students who demonstrate consistent behavior outside school expectations can expect to meet with the administrator and their parents to work out a behavior plan tailored to their specific needs.

K-12 Administrative Behavioral Interventions:

The school expects reasonable behavior from students, and wishes to focus our attention on the positive activities of the school. However, as noted above, inappropriate behavior will have consequences, which could include loss of free time or privileges, removal from school activities, suspension, or expulsion.

Tier 1 Response: Alert the student that he/she broke a rule, explain the rule, and administer an appropriate consequence

Tier 2 Response: The teacher will explain the rule and administer an appropriate consequence. The teacher will also contact the student's parents/guardians and send a report to the parents/guardians and the appropriate administrative office.

Tier 3 Response: The Administrator or their designee may suspend the student under suspension procedures; this could include an instructional suspension, as appropriate, in which the student would be removed from the classroom for all non-instructional activities.

Tier 4 Response: Punishable by exclusion, under the exclusion procedures

At Beacon Hill, prohibited behaviors include:

Tier 1: -Failing to follow directions or comply with reasonable requests
- -Public displays of affection
- -Running or causing disruptions
- -Littering on school grounds
- -Misbehaving or failing to follow school rules or guidelines
- -Lying to school personnel or parent volunteers
- -Violating the school dress code
- -Using personal devices during the school day without direct permission
- -Failing to complete assignments or classroom work
- -Failing to follow any school rules or policies
- -Shouting at or harassing anyone on school rounds.
- -Not showing up for class on time
- -Using or creating objects/toys that distract from class
- -Using school technology outside of the guidelines given

Tier 2: -Stealing or defacing school materials or supplies
- -Using inappropriate or insulting language towards any member of the school community
- -Causing or attempting/threatening to cause any form of damage or harm to school property
- -Cheating or plagiarizing schoolwork
- -Using unauthorized materials on an assignment or assessment
- -Interfering with a teacher or students' work.

-Helping or supporting another student's attempts to be academically dishonest

Tier 3: -Staying on school property after being instructed to leave
-Any form of hazing
-Participating in any activities that disrupt the learning process
-Wearing or displaying anything that shows involvement in a gang
-Intimidating or bullying other students either through verbal abuse or digital menacing
-Engaging in obscene, vulgar, or insulting conduct
-Possessing, producing, or distributing offensive or prohibited materials
-Repeatedly failing to show up for class without a reasonable excuse
-Violence or threats of bodily injury
-Physically contacting another student in ways that result in injury or unacceptable contact
-Willingly engaging in any conduct that places employees or students at risk of physical injury.
-Threatening a school building or event
-Extorting another person by threat or intimidation
-Obtaining money or materials by theft/robbery or deception
-Involving in activities with stolen goods
-Engaging in any activity that is criminally punishable
-Engaging in gambling activities
-Using, possessing, selling, purchasing, or distributing any banned or controlled substance
-Making unwanted sexual requests, advances, communication or any other form of harassment

Tier 4: -Possession/use of weapons

For full explanation of the school's suspension & expulsion policy, please ask for policy #215 in the school office.

Policy on Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying

The School seeks to foster an environment that promotes learning, dignity and respect and therefore prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any student on school property, on a school bus, or at school-sponsored events.

A simple description of bullying that we will use with the students at all age levels is as follows:

RUDE BEHAVIOR	MEAN BEHAVIOR	BULLYING BEHAVIOR
When someone says or does something unintentionally hurtful one time.	When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful one time.	When someone says or does something intentionally hurtful, and they keep doing it even after you have told them to stop.

Any student found responsible for harassment, intimidation, bullying, whether by in-person or digital/online interaction will be subject to discipline including suspension and/or expulsion. For more information on the harassment, intimidating, and bullying policy, please see policy #214 in the school office.

Student Health and Safety

Emergency Medical Forms

The Ohio State law requires an Emergency Medical Authorization Form from each student. This enables parents to authorize emergency treatment for a student should they become ill or injured while under school authority. This is very important when parents cannot be reached. It will also alert school personnel to medical problems that may require special treatment.

Students who become ill or injured during school hours may come to the school office for help. Depending on the nature of the illness, a student may rest in the clinic for a period of time or a parent is notified to take the child home. No student will be allowed to leave the building without the permission of a parent, guardian, or another person (as noted on the Emergency Medical Authorization Form) designated to assume responsibility when a student is ill.

If any changes are needed on the Emergency Medical Form throughout the school year, please inform the school so that we can best care for your child.

Child Abuse and Neglect

The Ohio Revised Code Section 2151.421 requires any professional school employee to report suspected child abuse or neglect to Children's Services immediately. The school does not investigate such cases and makes no other decisions in this regard. All referrals are confidential.

Hearing and Vision Screening

Hearing and Vision Screening Hearing and vision screening assessments are conducted annually by a licensed school nurse in order to identify deficiencies that may contribute to barriers to learning, as directed by state requirements. All students in Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th grade, 11th grade, or who are in their first year at Beacon Hill are screened.

Immunization Law

In compliance with the Ohio Compulsory Immunization Law, all students who do not have necessary documentation regarding evidence of proper immunization (which may be the completion of an exemption form) will be excluded from school after fourteen days. If there is an outbreak of a disease for which vaccination is expected, students who have not been vaccinated (and instead completed an exemption form) may be excluded from school temporarily to reduce the potential of further spread.

Medicines at School

The primary responsibility for the administration of prescription drugs and other medication to their children is with the parent/guardian. The school's role in the administration of this policy is one of cooperation with the parent and student. It is preferred that the administration of medication be done whenever possible to avoid school hours. However, when unavoidable, trained school personnel is able to administer prescription medications to student during school hours in accordance with board policy and state law. Any medication administration will be documented. All medicines must be kept in the school office, with the only exceptions noted below in *Student Self-Possession of Medicines.*

Prescription Medication

Prescription medication must be received in its original container, labeled with the student's name, name of medication and the proper dosage. The proper medication form must accompany the medication before personnel can dispense it to a student. The form is available from our school office. **Note: New request forms must be submitted each year and as necessary for any changes in the medication order.**

Non-Prescription Medicines

Non-prescription medicines include Other-the-Counter (OTC) medications, which are approved for sale without a prescription and with a Drug Facts label, and Homeopathic medicines, which include vitamins and supplements. It continues to be preferred that the administration of all non-prescription medications be done whenever possible to avoid school hours. When unavoidable, non-prescription medications may be administered at School with the advance completion and approval of the Non-Prescription Medication Administration Request Form. The requested medication must be provided by the parent in a properly labeled original container and stored at the school in a locked cabinet. All dosage requirements must be clearly marked and in accordance with product's label. The school may keep a stock of acetaminophen and ibuprofen in a locked school cabinet, which can only be administered with approval marked on the completed Non-Prescription Medication Administration Request Form.

Student Self-Possession of Medicines

In some special situations, when age and responsibility allow, students may self-possess emergency medication such as epinephrine, inhalers, diabetic medications, and seizure medication. This self-possession can only occur if the student has the written approval of the prescriber of the medication and, if the student is a minor, the written approval of the parent, guardian, or other person having care or charge of the student, and a completed medication form submitted and approved by the Superintendent. Other than the underlined medicines above, at no time should students have any medications (prescription or non-prescription) in their backpacks, lunch-boxes, or on their person while at school.

For more information about Beacon Hill's policy regarding medication, see policy #314 in the school office.

Search and Seizure

In order to preserve a safe environment for all students and staff, the School may conduct reasonable searches of students and student property in instances of concern for student and staff safety. All searches, must recognize the privacy rights of students and may not be done without reasonable basis or in an unreasonable manner. For more information on school policy on search and seizure, see policy #317.

Emergency Drills

Fire, tornado, lockdown, and evacuation drills are held periodically. Maps for evacuation are posted in each classroom and reviewed periodically with all students. Please remind your child that these are practice drills for everyone's safety.