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MISSION STATEMENT

Burnet Middle School will provide students with a quality education while affording the student an opportunity to develop socially and emotionally in a safe learning environment.

VISION

The value of education will be a fundamental belief in all areas of our academic program, with the school and community working collectively to increase the opportunities for meaningful participation by parents/guardians in the education of their children.

VALUES

Students

- We expect all students to strive for excellence in an atmosphere of high, yet realistic, expectations, which are constantly readjusted as students progress as learners.
- We will foster an environment of respect for themselves and others by showing kindness, compassion and honesty.
- We will inspire students to be lifelong learners who can thrive as independent learners in a collaborative environment while also preparing them to be productive, accountable and responsible.

Staff

- We will consistently model our core values; they guide us in how we treat each other and live together as a community.
- We will foster professional development, teacher collaboration and teacher input to attain maximum achievement for our students and school, while remaining open to change.
- We will utilize multisensory teaching styles and strategies that will connect with students, and will teach relevant content that is derived from adopted state and national standards.
- We will provide a safe, creative, and challenging learning environment that consists of numerous curricular and extracurricular opportunities for our students.

Parents and Community

- We will offer a collaborative community environment that will allow all stakeholders to work together on various facets of the middle school experience.
- We believe that parents/guardians should take an active role in their child's middle school experience by participating in school events, becoming active in the PTA, and maintaining open communication with staff members.
- We will maintain open channels for sharing ideas and receiving feedback from parents and community members.
- We believe that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

It is my honor to welcome you to Burnet Middle School. Burnet Middle School is committed to creating an accepting culture of high expectations for all learners, collaborating within our community, and embracing diversity. We encourage all students to be active and engaged members of the school community.

Burnet Middle School has a caring staff who is determined to ensure all students receive the highest education possible. Our collaborative teams work together in professional learning communities in order to provide enriching experiences that will prepare students for high school, college, and life. Although we have placed a considerable emphasis on effective classroom instruction, we also have systems of support before, during, and after school in order to provide timely remediation and intervention for all students.

Our ultimate goal is to create a safe and positive environment that will be conducive to students' academic, social, and emotional well-being. We can make this possible by being connected to our school community where students, staff, parents, and the community come together to ensure students' success. Home to school communication is a very important component of any highly effective school. We encourage all students and families to be active and engaged members of the school community. We encourage you to visit our website often for up-to-date information and to contact us at any time as we welcome your questions and input.

On behalf of the entire Burnet Middle School Community, I would like to wish you a very successful school year. Be proud of our school, work hard, and enjoy your years at Burnet Middle School.

EQUALITY IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

It is the policy of Burnet Middle School that no student shall be denied access to or the benefit of any educational program or activity solely on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, social or economic status, or handicap.

It is the policy of Burnet Middle School that there shall be no different requirements for completion of course offerings or courses of study solely on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, sex, ancestry, national origin, social or economic status, or handicap.

BELL SCHEDULE

PERIOD	START	FINISH
Homeroom	8:03	8:10
Period 1	8:14	8:52
Period 2	8:56	9:34
Period 3	9:38	10:16
Period 4	10:20	10:58
Period 5	11:02	11:42
Period 6	11:46	12:26
Period 7	12:30	1:10
Period 8	1:14	1:52
Period 9	1:56	2:34

HOURS OF SUPERVISION

School hours for students are 8:03 a.m. until 2:34 p.m., Monday through Friday. Supervision by the faculty, staff, and administration of Burnet Middle School begins at 7:35 a.m. daily inside the building in the auditorium or cafeteria. Students are to enter the building at 7:35 a.m. Sixth grade students are to enter through “exit 9” and report directly to the cafeteria. Seventh grade students enter through the gym doors and remain there, and eighth grade students are to enter through “exit 12” and report directly to the auditorium. All students will stay in their designated areas until the 7:55 am bell rings.

PERSONNEL

Principal: Mr. David Shaw (908) 851-6497/dshaw@twpunionschools.org
Secretary: Julie Carvalho (908) 851-6491/jcarvalho@twpunionschools.org

Sixth Grade:

Vice Principal: Ms Sharon Drayton (909)-851-6489/sdrayton@twpunionschools.org
Counselor: Mrs. Lisa Henderson (908) 851-6495/lhenderson@twpunionschools.org
Secretary: TBD (908) 851-6490

Seventh Grade:

Vice Principal: Mr. Shawn Paterno (908)-851-6373/spaterno@twpunionschools.org
Counselor: Mrs. Heather Regenye (908) 851-6496/hregenye@twpunionschools.org
Secretary: Mrs. Donna Senkiw (908) 851-6490/dsenkiw@twpunionschools.org

Eighth Grade:

Vice Principal: Miss Gina Calderone (908) 851-4693/gcalderone@twpunionschools.org
Counselor: Mrs. Pat Hoffman (908) 851-6493/phoffman@twpunionschools.org
Secretary: Mrs. Kathy Graul (908) 851-6499/kgraul@twpunionschools.org

SCHOOL WEBSITE: <http://www.Burnet.twpunionschools.org>

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

Every student at Burnet Middle School will be assigned a counselor. School counselors will help the students in a variety of ways, including:

- Scheduling of classes based on academic strengths and interests,
- Exploring possible careers and vocations,
- Reviewing academic progress and adjustment to middle school,
- Assisting in the development of decision-making skills, and
- Assisting in intervention teacher services.

Counselors provide assistance with academic and personal problems in an open, caring environment, where students can learn to better understand themselves and others. Students may request appointments with their counselors.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR (SAC)

Tara Colandrea, (908) 851-4696/tcolandrea@twpunionschools.org

In addition to the services provided by the school counselors, the Student Assistance Counselor is an available resource for students. The goals of the student assistance program are to provide consistent support and sound information about the world in which our students live, to provide opportunities for students to master the essential skills needed to be an independent and capable young person, and to assist students in dealing with problems and issues which may interfere with their academic, social and emotional growth.

ATTENDANCE

Students should make every effort to attend school every day. If a student is absent from school, the parent/guardian must call 908-851-6499 or email BMSAttendance@twpunionschools.org from the registered Genesis Parent Portal email before 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence. All other absences will be classified as unauthorized. Students should not exceed nine (9) cumulative unauthorized absences in any one semester. Students exceeding eighteen (18) cumulative unauthorized absences in a school year may face legal matters pursuant to NJSA 18A:38-28 through 31.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Students will only be released from school to parents/guardians or individuals listed in the Genesis information system. All students leaving school early should bring a written note to the office in the morning or have a parent/guardian call/email Kathy Graul at (908) 851-6499 or kgraul@twpunionschools.org detailing the time that the child will be picked up from school that day. If the student leaves before 12:03 p.m. (a four hour day), it will be considered an absence. **Students will NOT be dismissed early between 2:00 p.m. and 2:34 p.m.**

DISMISSAL

Students must leave the building immediately at dismissal unless they have an appointment with a teacher, are scheduled for a regular after-school activity, or assigned detention. Students are to go directly home, and not loiter.

Students who remain after school for detention or any activity must leave the building immediately after being dismissed. Students must obtain all needed articles from their lockers before reporting to detention or their activities.

During COVID all classes will be escorted from the building by their teacher to the nearest exit. Students who are participating in after school clubs, activities, extra help, and detentions will re-enter through the main entrance on Caldwell Avenue and must have a pass from their teacher or club advisor. In season student athletes will report to the gymnasium via the rear gymnasium doors. All students must be in their designated areas by the 2:40 p.m. bell.

TARDINESS

Prompt arrival to school each day is important. This is the responsibility of the student and parent. If a family problem occurs that results in a student's tardy arrival, the parent/guardian should email the grade level secretary. Unexcused tardy arrivals accumulated throughout the school year will result in disciplinary consequences, such as office detention and Saturday detention.

The tardy signal (late bell) sounds at 8:03 a.m. Students are late if they are not in their homeroom by 8:03. Students late to school must report to the Main Office **BEFORE** reporting to their homerooms or classes.

The following procedure will be used when a student is late:

- 1st lateness: Student is given a pass to homeroom/class.
 - 2nd lateness: Student is given a pass and a warning that the next lateness will result in detention.
 - 3rd lateness: Student is issued 1 day office detention.
 - 6th lateness: Student is issued 2 days office detention.
 - 9th lateness: Student is issued a Saturday detention.
- Every 3rd late arrival in the future will result in a Saturday detention.

ID POLICY

1. All students must have their school provided ID badge on them at all times.
2. The ID must be produced when asked for by a Board of Education Employee.
3. Students will not be admitted to school/PTA sponsored functions, such as athletic events, school plays, etc. without displaying their IDs.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

Types of Detention:

- Teacher
- Office
- Saturday Detention
- Out of School Suspension

Teacher Detention usually lasts 10 to 20 minutes. Teachers will, at times, assign detention for incidents that occur in the classroom. Whenever a teacher assigns a detention, the parent/guardian will be notified via phone/email giving 24 hours notice. Students will be held accountable if they are assigned teacher detention and fail to attend.

Office Detention is only assigned by the Principal or Vice Principal. Office detention is held in the cafeteria or a classroom from 2:40 until 3:10. Students must bring schoolwork to do while in detention; failure to work will result in the student being asked to leave, and an additional day will be added to the existing detention. Students who fail to report to detention will be assigned a Saturday detention.

Saturday Detention is issued for actions that do not warrant suspension from school, for excessive detentions, or for excessive late arrival to school. Students will report to Burnet Middle School prior to 8:30 a.m. and will remain until 10:30 a.m. Students must also bring sufficient schoolwork for the entire two hours; failure to work may result in being sent home. If students are sent home from Saturday detention, they will be required to make that date up and one additional Saturday will be assigned. If students fail to report to a Saturday detention, the first time an additional Saturday will be assigned. If students receive more than two Saturdays in succession, they may be suspended from school.

Suspensions: At times it becomes necessary to remove a student from the school environment. This may last from one to ten days, depending on the severity of the offense. Students may be suspended from school for fighting, accruing two or more Saturday detentions, use of profanity, endangering the safety of others, insubordination, bus misconduct or any other offense as listed in NJ Statute 18A Chapter 37. Parents/guardians will be notified by phone when their child is being suspended. A formal letter will also be mailed home to inform them of the incident. Students will be given notice to get their homework and bring books home, so they may keep pace with the work they miss.

Notification Policy:

- It is expected that **students** will notify their parents/guardians of detention 24 hours in advance.
- Parents/guardians will receive a letter and a phone call advising them that a Saturday detention or suspension has been assigned.

BMS STUDENT DRESS CODE

Since school is a place of business and learning, students are expected to dress appropriately.

- Revealing clothing is not permitted. (The back, chest area, buttocks, and stomach must be covered.)
- Shirts must extend past the waistband of pants, skirts, or shorts. Shirts and blouses must be buttoned. The following are **NOT** to be worn: tube-tops, halter tops, half shirts, spaghetti strap tops, see through tops, mesh shirts. At no point should undergarments (bra straps, underwear) be visible.
- Clothing must be worn in such a manner that no underwear is visible. “Sagging” will not be tolerated. Belts must be worn to keep pants at an appropriate level.
- Pants and jeans may not have rips or tears in them that allow skin or under garments to show. **Shorts/skirts must reach past the mid-thigh.**
- Outerwear is **not** to be worn during the school day. Sweatshirts, fleece jackets and warm-ups will be permitted.
- Clothing and/or accessories may not be worn if they have indecent or offensive messages, including alcohol/drug/tobacco advertisements.
- Hoods/hats are not permitted to be worn in the building.
- Proper and safe footwear is required at all times. For safety, no cleated, open-toed or open backed shoes, slippers, flip flops, slides, or sandals may be worn. All shoes and sneakers with laces must be properly tied. All shoes must have a back. The back strap on crocs must be worn around the ankle.
- Clothing or jewelry that could easily cause damage to any student or school property may not be worn (e.g., spiked bracelets, choker chains, etc.).
- No du-rags or bandanas are to be worn during the school day.
- No headphones, earphones, or airpods are to be worn in the hallway as it jeopardizes your safety.
- Skin lotions and gels are not to be used in school.

The dress code shall serve as a minimum code. The building principal may institute school rules and regulations that he deems necessary and/or appropriate.

HALLWAY PROCEDURES

To avoid accidents in our hallways, students should travel the shortest route from class to class. Students should use the right side of the hallway and stairs. Students are expected to be in their classrooms when the bell rings. Students who are late to class may receive teacher detention. Excessive lateness to class will result in a referral to the office. Eating in the school hallways is not permitted. Proper behavior is extremely important to keep the hallways safe and orderly. Students should refrain from any horseplay while in the hallways. Students should walk at all times. Running will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action. Screaming in the hallways and staircases will result in disciplinary action. Hands should be kept to yourself at all times in the hallways.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Upon entering the building in the morning until 2:34 pm, students are strictly prohibited from using cellular telephones and/or other electronic devices. Although use is prohibited, these devices may be stored (**powered off**) in their purses, carry cases, pockets, or lockers during school hours.

This policy has been designed to protect the educational integrity of all students. In the case of an emergency, students may be given permission to use the office telephone to contact a parent/guardian. Likewise, a student may be called out of class to respond to an emergency telephone call from home.

Recording of any kind is strictly prohibited. Any student found using a cell phone/ electronic device, carrying any electronic device in the *ON* mode, or carrying it in plain view will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

FIRST OFFENSE – *Warning* – The phone/electronic device is confiscated and placed in the school safe. The phone will be returned to the student at the end of the day.

SECOND OFFENSE – The phone electronic device is confiscated and placed in the school safe. The item will be returned at a conference held between an administrator, a parent/guardian, and the student.

THIRD OFFENSE – *Saturday Detention*– The phone/electronic device is confiscated and placed in the school safe. The item will be returned at a conference held between an administrator, a parent/guardian, and the student.

FOUR OR MORE OFFENSES MAY RESULT IN OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS .

FAILURE TO RELINQUISH a cellular phone or electronic device to a requesting staff member will result in ***Out of School Suspension.***

STUDENTS BRINGING CELLULAR PHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES TO SCHOOL, DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK. The administrators, faculty and staff members of Burnet Middle School will NOT assume liability for lost, stolen or damaged merchandise found in school or in a student's possession.

CAFETERIA

Enjoy it and keep it clean for everyone.

1. Seats will be assigned. Students are not to change seats during the year unless directed by administration.
2. Beverages in glass containers must not be brought to school.
3. Students must form lines at the counters.
4. Students may not cut in line.
5. After students have finished eating, garbage must be put in the designated receptacle when directed.
6. Students should be careful and neat with food, drink, and wrappers.
7. Students are not allowed to shout or yell when speaking to each other.
8. Restroom facilities on the first floor are available near the cafeteria during lunch. Lunch period students are not to use the other restrooms on the second or third floors.
9. Students must sign out before leaving the cafeteria and back in upon return.
10. When leaving the cafeteria, students must be quiet in the halls.
11. No food or drink of any kind is to be taken from the cafeteria.
12. Students are not to leave their seats without permission.
13. All tables and floors are to be cleaned by the end of lunch.
14. All students are required to have a proper school ID or ID number when purchasing items from the cafeteria.
15. Stealing will not be tolerated.

ACADEMICS / STUDENT SERVICES

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Students are encouraged to use Burnet's Library Media Center and its resources for reading, research, group and independent school work, reference help, and library-related activities such as Battle of the Books. The library is open from 7:50 am to 2:50 pm on most school days. By participating in a statewide lending program, the library can make books from other libraries available to students and staff. In addition to books and magazines, which may be borrowed, the library provides year-long access to information through its website and online database subscriptions.

The School Library Media Specialist teaches research skills to students in collaboration with their subject teachers when projects and assignments require the use of information. Classes do not come to the library for weekly lessons or book exchanges. They come as needed. Individual students may come to the library to borrow and return books as often as they wish before or after school, or when teachers send them during the day.

GRADING SYSTEM

The purpose of grading is to measure the degree to which students achieve mastery of the curriculum standards established for each course. The teacher in conjunction with the supervisor will establish the type and minimum number of assessments designed to measure mastery. All assessments must be rooted in sound scientifically established testing procedures. Consistent with the UTEA contract, the teacher will have the responsibility to determine grades within BOE policy based upon their professional judgment of all available criteria. Individual assessments given to students are to be based on a 0-100% scale. When calculating grades for a marking period or exams, a 50% is the lowest score that is to be entered regardless of the score earned on the assessment. The minimum grade for passing is 60%.

If a failing grade is to be recorded on the report card, the teacher must *indicate “in danger of failing” on the progress report or via phone conference to inform the parent/guardian that the student is “in danger of failing.” The phone conference must be followed up by an email or letter confirming the conversation.*

The Board of Education approved marking system is:

% Scale	Grade	GPA
97-100	A+	4.33
93-96	A	4.00
90-92	A-	3.67
87-89	B+	3.33
83-86	B	3.00
80-82	B-	2.67
77-79	C+	2.33
73-76	C	2.00
70-72	C-	1.67
65-69	D	1.25
60-64	D-	1.00
0-59	F	0.00

The school year is divided into four nine-week marking periods for full-year courses, and six-week and twelve-week marking periods for cycle classes. Cycle grades will be given out separately and recorded on report cards. Report cards can be accessed via the Genesis Information System.

FIRST HONOR ROLL

Students who receive marks of “A-” or higher in all classes are eligible for the first honor roll. A student can receive a “B-” or higher in Physical Education and still be eligible for the first honor roll.

SECOND HONOR ROLL

Students who receive marks of “B-” or higher in all classes are eligible for the second honor roll. A student can receive a “C-” or higher in Physical Education and still be eligible for the second honor roll.

HOMEWORK

Students will be assigned homework as a supplement to their regular classroom instruction. Students will profit by bringing books home every night. The completion of homework assignments and regular studying contribute to a student's academic success. If students do not have specific homework assignments, they should spend this time reading. The time actually required for each student to complete the assigned homework will vary with the individual.

Parents will be able to check daily homework assignments by having the student show the parent their Google Classroom, or the Genesis portal . Information will be provided during the first few weeks of school.

CLASS WORK

The skills learned, the background of knowledge obtained, and the basic attitudes acquired during the middle school years lead to the development of character and each student's success as a citizen. There are many opportunities to develop individual abilities in school. However, to achieve success and benefit from these experiences, a great deal depends on the students and the habits that they form independently.

The following are some **suggestions** to help students succeed:

1. Have books, notebooks, and other equipment well organized and available.
2. Have a folder for each subject.
3. Keep erasers, pencils, and pens, as well as a small ruler, in a convenient place, so they are available when needed in class.
4. Listen carefully to all directions.
5. Be prepared for all classes. Start to work promptly.
6. Maintain high standards of penmanship, spelling, and neatness in all written work.
7. Use a dictionary or online resource when not sure how to spell a word.
8. Be sure that lessons are completed and handed in on time.
9. Write all assignments in your planner.
10. Have a quiet place to study at home, away from distractions.
11. Keep as many afternoons free of outside appointments as possible to be able to complete any necessary make-up work.
12. Make an appointment with the subject teacher promptly to receive additional help when necessary.
13. Remember that you are more likely to understand and remember work that you do independently.
14. Be proud of your accomplishments.
15. Study on a regular basis. It's better to do a little each day, rather than try to cram all studying into one night.
16. Plan your time wisely to have study and fun time.

HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK MISSED WHEN ABSENT FROM CLASS FOR ILLNESS OR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students have the responsibility to make up work missed during an illness. If an illness extends for a week or more, the Counselors Office should be notified by the student's parent/guardian.

The School Counselor will request assignments from the subject teachers. Sufficient time must be allowed for the collection of these assignments. After the assignments are collected, they may be obtained from the counselor's office.

Each day's absence entitles the student to an extra day to make up the work. Students will receive instructions in the Google classroom and the student Genesis portal at the beginning of the school year.

When students miss regularly scheduled academic classroom lessons for supplemental, gifted and talented education sessions, music lessons, field trips, etc., they are required to take the initiative to meet with the teacher for missed classwork to be completed as additional homework that day. Students are responsible to turn in the previous night's homework to the classroom teacher prior to going to supplemental, gifted and talented education sessions, music lessons, field trips, etc.

TEXTBOOKS ADD CHROMEBOOKS

Textbooks and Chromebooks are tools that students use to help them master the subject matter in most classes. Every student has the responsibility to take proper care of textbooks/chromebooks issued for personal use. Keep textbooks/chromebooks in a secure locker when they are not being used. Lost or stolen textbooks/chromebooks must be paid for by the student to whom they were issued. All issued textbooks/chromebooks must be returned at the conclusion of the course. Students will also be held financially responsible for damage or loss of textbooks/chromebooks.

Many of our textbooks are also available on-line. The subject teacher will provide the internet link as well as the access code to any book that is accessible on-line.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

The Alfred A. Ameen Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society was founded in the spring of 1991, and held its first induction ceremony in June 1992. The society is open to eighth graders who fulfill the membership requirements. The Burnet chapter follows the constitution and by-laws of the National Junior Honor Society. The chapter's purpose is to encourage and recognize superior scholarship, community service, school involvement, and excellent character.

Students in the seventh grade are eligible for membership if they have a 3.5 grade point average or higher, while maintaining "Honor Roll" status for all marking periods in 6th and 7th grade. The quality of citizenship is recognized, and the requirement for membership is endorsed by three character

recommendations from Burnet teachers. A suspension from school makes a student ineligible for nomination.

Community and school service are demonstrated by participation in three school-sponsored clubs or two school-sponsored clubs and one ongoing community activity. No regularly scheduled school subject is appropriate. All applications are subject to approval by the Faculty Council of Burnet Middle School.

The Alfred A. Ameen Chapter is a self-supporting organization, having at least one fund-raising activity each school year, and performs at least one school service activity and at least one community service activity each school year.

SCHOOL NURSE

If students need to visit the nurse because they feel ill, they must request a pass from their classroom teachers. Students will not be permitted into the nurse's office without a pass. When entering the nurse's office, students must sign in.

PROCEDURES REGARDING ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

The administration of prescribed medication to a student during school hours will be permitted only when failure to take such medicine would jeopardize the health of the student, and the student would not be able to attend school if the medicine were not made available during school hours.

1. The school does not provide the student with aspirin or any other medication.
2. The parent/guardian or parent designee must bring in all medications.
3. The parent/guardian must provide a written request for the administration of the prescribed medication in school (signed medication authorization form).
4. Non-prescription medication: Written orders are to be provided to the school by the private physician, detailing the name of the student, name of the drug, dosage, and time of administration. All non-prescription medication must be brought to school in the original container (signed medication authorization form). It is recommended that medications be given between 11:30 a.m. and 12: 30 p.m. in order to maintain the continuity of the student's learning process.
5. Prescription medication must be brought to school in the original container with a CURRENT DATE, appropriately labeled by the pharmacy or physician, indicating the student's name, name of medication, dosage, time of administration, and attending physician's name (signed medication authorization form). It is recommended that medication be given between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in order to maintain continuity of the student's learning process.
6. The school will provide safe storage of the medication.
7. The records or documentation process is required to be maintained by the certified school nurse.

The certified school nurse or parent/guardian is the only one permitted to administer medication in school or on school trips.

USE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT, AND GROUNDS

1. Students are responsible for school equipment, chromebooks, supplies, and textbooks furnished for their use.
2. Students will replace or pay for any loss or unnecessary damage. **The school will not be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged textbooks/chromebooks.**
3. Students are to help maintain the condition and appearance of the school building and grounds. Students will dispose of papers and other refuse in the proper receptacles.

Any student who defaces property will be subject to disciplinary action, including Saturday detention or suspension. Students and/or parents/guardians will be responsible for paying for any damages and/or repairs.

FIELD TRIPS

Each year students may have an opportunity to take one or more field trips that are arranged to provide additional educational experiences. Parents/guardians must approve their children's participation by signing permission slips. Student dress and behavior on field trips are expected to be exemplary. Students are responsible for making up any work that is missed while away from school.

LOST AND FOUND

The Lost and Found is located in the front of the cafeteria at BMS. It is suggested that students put their names on valuables, such as calculators, so they may be easily identified. Students should not bring large sums of money or valuable jewelry, etc., to school. The school assumes no responsibility for a student's personal belongings. Unclaimed items will be discarded periodically during the school year.

LOCKERS

To protect their property, students should use their school-issued locks on their hall lockers. All lockers and locks are property of Burnet Middle School. Locks should be securely fastened at all times. The school is not responsible for items stolen during the regular school day or when other groups use the building after school hours. **STUDENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO SHARE LOCKERS.** A student is permitted to use only the locker assigned by the homeroom teacher and no other. Students may access their lockers in between classes as well as before and after school. No student will be allowed to access their lockers during class. Lockers must be kept neat, ready for inspection at any time. **The school administration reserves the right to open and inspect any locker at any time. Periodic inspections will be made.**

ETHICAL VALUES AND THE 7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE TEENS

Character is defined as the sum of those qualities of moral excellence, which stimulates a person to do the right thing and which is manifested through right and proper actions despite internal or external pressures to the contrary. The following habits serve as a minimum standard of ethical conduct that is the foundation of character development at Burnet Middle School. These habits encourage students to live honorably, so they may be promoted to high school with the standards and integrity essential to serve as productive citizens. The habits utilized by our school are as follows:

1. Be proactive
2. Begin with the end in mind
3. Put first things first
4. Think win-win
5. Seek first to understand, then be understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the saw

RULES TO FOLLOW

1. Loitering in the halls, running, booking, milking, and other forms of “horseplay” will not be tolerated.
2. Physical fighting (in anger or “play fighting”) may result in suspension from school.
3. Verbal or written profanity/obscenities may result in suspension from school or a Saturday detention.
4. Cleanliness and neatness in dress and personal appearance are required of all students. Compliance with the school dress code is expected. A copy of the dress code is included in this handbook.
5. Students’ smoking and/or having cigarettes, lighters, matches, other tobacco products, or vaping paraphernalia in the building or on school grounds is not permitted. Violations may result in Saturday detention(s) or suspension from school.
6. All electronic devices should be turned off and put away while students are in the building as per our Electronic Device Policy.
7. White-out and/or magic markers are NOT allowed in school unless a teacher has requested them as part of a project.
8. No sexual or racially/ethnically motivated talk or writing is permitted. Incidents may result in both administrative and police action.
9. Students are not to touch fire alarms or ceiling sensors at any time. Touching these devices will result in suspension to the Superintendent for a Board hearing and/or a criminal complaint filed with the Union Police Department.
10. Bookbags/backpacks are not to be used during the school day. Students may only use bookbags/backpacks to transport books and materials to and from school.
11. Keep your hands to yourself at all times.

12. The same behavior that is expected in school is expected on the school bus. The school bus is a privilege. Inappropriate behavior on the bus may result in bus privileges being suspended or revoked.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Students at Burnet Middle School are given the opportunity to join a variety of clubs. Students may enjoy working in different areas of student government, drama, writing, art, or just helping people.

Students should listen for announcements at the beginning of the school year for information about signing up for membership in Burnet activities. Students may join any club. An updated club list will be provided to all students at the beginning of the school year. A club fair, which will explain the purpose of each club as well as outline some activities that will take place, will be scheduled for the beginning of the school year. All students will attend the club fair during the school day as a scheduled assembly.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

All members of the faculty and student body are citizens of the Student Council.

The student congress is the governing body of this organization. It is made up of one representative from each homeroom and the elected officers of the Student Council.

The purpose of this organization is to:

- develop attitudes of and practices in good citizenship,
- promote harmonious relations throughout the entire school,
- improve student-teacher relationships,
- improve school morale,
- assist in the management of the school,
- provide a forum for student expression,
- provide orderly direction of school activities,
- charter school clubs and other organizations , and
- promote the general welfare of the school.

Student Council plans special events and activities throughout the year for the enjoyment of both the students and staff of the school.

ATHLETIC TEAMS

Burnet Middle School has interscholastic athletic teams in cross-country, football, soccer, basketball, track, wrestling, baseball, softball, volleyball and field hockey. Participation is limited to 7th and 8th grade students. Physical examinations and permission slips are required prior to enrollment.

TOWNSHIP OF UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Notice of Child Find Activity
Pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities
Education Act and New Jersey Administrative Code
Title 6A:14, Special Education

The Township of Union Public School District has a responsibility to locate, identify and evaluate all resident students with disabilities who are in need of special education and related services, including students with disabilities attending nonpublic schools, and highly mobile pupils such as migrant workers' children and homeless children regardless of the severity of their disabilities. The school district locates, identifies and evaluates, where appropriate, the following:

Children below school-entry age (3-5); school age children; children entering school for the first time; children enrolled in public and private schools; transfer pupils and school age children who are eligible to attend school but who are not attending school and who are residents of the Township of Union School District. Upon written request, the district will conduct an initial identification meeting for any resident child to determine whether a referral for special education and related services is appropriate. Such a request may be made by contacting Kim Conti, Supervisor of Special Services, Township of Union Public Schools via phone (908) 851- 4426, email kconti@twpunionschools.org, or by writing her at 1231 Burnet Avenue, Union, NJ 07083. The school district provides special education and related services for children ages 3 to 21. Information for children with potential disabilities or those with disabilities from birth to three is available through Project Child Find, (a service established by the N.J. Department of Education through I.D.E.A., Part B funds from the U.S. Department of Education) at 1-800-322-8174.