



A.G. BERNER MIDDLE SCHOOL

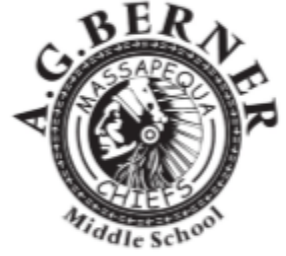
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@BERNERCHIEFS



August, 2025

Dear Berner Families,

As the opening day of school approaches, it's important that we share all of the procedures related to transportation of students during arrival and dismissal for those students who take the bus, walk, or who are driven by their parents to and from school. As always, it remains our commitment to effectuate the safe and orderly arrival and dismissal of our students on a daily basis.

A very large majority of the students who attend BMS are provided district bus transportation to and from school. There is information from the Transportation Department about buses in PowerSchool on the Parent Portal. The Transportation Department is requesting that each parent cooperate by having children at their bus stop at least TEN MINUTES before the indicated pick up time. All bus drivers will have a list of students on the bus. However, we also understand that many parents will opt to drive their children to school each day; therefore, it's important that the following arrival and dismissal guidelines are followed.

MORNING ARRIVAL

7:45 AM - 8:00 AM

BUSSERS:

At Berner, buses will line up in our parking lot and drop off students near the front of the building. The debarking of buses will be staggered. The first buses will debark students beginning at 7:45 AM.

- All students will enter through either the AUDITORIUM ENTRANCE or FRONT VISITORS ENTRANCE.
 - The next group of buses will then release the students and so on until all students have debarked each bus. School personnel will be in the bus drop off area to monitor and lend assistance, as needed.

- Once in the building, students will make their way to their lockers and then to their Homeroom class. To avoid congestion in the hallways, it is imperative that students make their way into their Homeroom classrooms as expediently as possible after using their hallway lockers.

STUDENT DROP OFF:

In the interest of health and safety, it is important that we maintain separate areas for student drop off and bus drop off. The SOUTH ENTRANCE (the one nearest Merrick Rd.) is the ONLY entrance designated for parents who opt to drive their children to school. **Parents are never to drop off students in the front of the building where bus drop off takes place.**

- **Parents may begin dropping off their children for EARLY ARRIVAL at 7:15 AM.** Any student who arrives at school between 7:15 AM and 7:45 AM will need to be dropped off near the CAFETERIA ENTRANCE under the overhang. They will then proceed to the cafeteria, where they will be supervised until the 7:45 AM bell sounds and directs them to their lockers and then to Homeroom.
- **Regular arrival begins at 7:45 AM.** Even though most of our students are eligible to come school on the bus, many of our parents choose to drop off their children. We ask that everyone remain patient, as drop off may take longer than expected. Using the early morning arrival, as noted above, may be a preferable option for some families.
- Upon slowly and safely pulling into the south parking lot, parents will be directed by a member of our staff to one of our student drop off areas. Additional school security and personnel will be in these student drop off areas to help ensure that students are dropped off safely and expediently.
- Depending on the drop off area that parents are directed to use on any given day, students will enter through either the CAFETERIA ENTRANCE or the TECH WING ENTRANCE.
- Once in the building, students will head to their lockers and then to their Homeroom class.
- Drivers are reminded that **it is unsafe/illegal to pass a school bus that has its red lights flashing**. Additionally, it's imperative that all drivers in the parking lot remain cognizant of school parking lot safety.

WALKERS:

Students who walk to school may enter through the same entrances as those being dropped off (Cafeteria, Tech Wing, Southwest). It's imperative that all walkers utilize the various cross walks in the parking lot(s) and that they walk safely.

- Once in the building, students will go to their lockers and then to their Homeroom class.

LATE ARRIVAL
AFTER 8:00 AM

Students who arrive at school after the 8:00 AM Homeroom bell will be marked late for school. These students should be dropped off near the VISITORS ENTRANCE.

REGULAR AFTERNOON DISMISSAL
2:55 PM

BUSSERS:

At Berner, buses will line up in our parking lot in the following locations.

- Buses that transport students **NORTH of Sunrise Highway to the EAST LAKE, MCKENNA, AND LOCKHART AREAS:**
 - **Buses 11, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 47, 50, 51, 52, 53**
 - These buses will line up alongside the front of the building from the flagpole and north to the athletic fields.
 - **Buses 13, 16, 18, 19, 33, 34, 35**
 - These buses will line up along the cafeteria entrance by the overhang.
- Buses that transport students **SOUTH of Sunrise Highway to the FAIRFIELD, BIRCH LANE, AND UNQUA AREAS:**
 - **Buses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 20, 21, 30, 31, 38, 41, 45, 46**
 - These buses will line up in the South parking lot.
- Vans to all areas of the district:
 - **Vans (Van 1) V001 AM/PM, (Van 2) V032 AM/PM, (Van 3) V010 AM/PM, (Van 4) V043 AM/ V005 PM, (Van 5) V012 AM/V004 PM**
 - These vans will line up in the **front of the building** on the east side of the parking lot along Carman Mill Rd. near the Main Driveway.

Line ups for buses and vans will be reviewed with students during the first few days of school to ensure that students are aware of the location of their bus at dismissal. Security guards and Berner staff will be situated around the outside of the building and throughout the parking lot to assist all bussers. Buses are released out of their loading areas by 3:10 PM.

STUDENT PICK UP:

During afternoon dismissal:

- Parents who choose to pick up their child are to use the NORTH entrance to the parking lot. When approaching from the north, this is the FIRST parking lot entrance and the one nearest to SUNRISE HIGHWAY.
 - When approaching from the south, this is the FOURTH parking lot entrance.

- Once in the entrance, parents are to make a LEFT into a designated parking lot. Parents can wait for their child in any one of the parking spaces, either those closest to the field or those nearest to Carman Mill Rd. These spots are allotted to parents picking up their child(ren).
- Parents may also choose to wait along Carman Mill Road, but in doing so, **are asked to only do so along the west side of the road in order to ensure the safety for our students.**
 - **Parents should not position their vehicle anywhere that will cause students to cross Carman Mill Rd.**
 - All students are to use the designated crosswalks throughout the parking lot when walking to their parent's vehicle. Security guards and Berner staff will be situated around the outside of the building on the Berner property and throughout the parking lot to assist all students.
 - It's imperative that all drivers in the parking lot remain cognizant of school parking lot safety, as students will be walking to their parents' vehicles.

WALKERS:

Walkers can exit from any door but must be sure to utilize the available crosswalks in the parking lot. Security guards and Berner staff will be situated around the outside of the building and throughout the parking lot to assist all walkers.

- It's important to note that a Nassau County crossing guard has been allocated to Berner and will be posted at the intersection of Merrick Road and East Shore Dr.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

BMS BELL SCHEDULE

Please click on the following link for the Berner bell schedule. [2025-2026 BMS Bell Schedule](#)

PARENT VISITATIONS TO BERNER

There may be times when parents will need to come to Berner to drop off items for their child, to pick up their child from the Attendance Office or Health Office, or if the parent needs to participate in a meeting with regard to school.

- Parents and other visitors should always drive in through the MAIN DRIVEWAY (nearest the flagpole) and come to the Visitors Entrance, where they will be directed by school personnel. **ALL VISITORS ARE TO SHOW PICTURE ID.**

When visiting the building for any reason, parents should park in the designated parking spaces labeled "Visitors Parking." These spaces are located in the parking lot alongside the cafeteria and music suites, facing Carman Mill Rd.

When picking up students early for an appointment, parents should report to the Visitors Entrance, where they will be directed by school staff of the next steps that will be required to sign out their child. **PARENTS, OR ANYONE PICKING UP A STUDENT DURING THE SCHOOL DAY, MUST HAVE PICTURE ID.**

- The Attendance Office monitor will verify that the person picking up the student is permitted to do so.
- Students who return to school following an appointment must report back to the Attendance Office and sign in with their return time.

When picking up students from the Health Office, parents should report to the Visitors Entrance, where the same procedure noted above will be followed.

For parents dropping off items for their child(ren), there will be three file cabinets by our front desk monitor. The file cabinets will be labeled 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Parents can place these items in the vestibule area, labeled with their child's name and grade. It will then be put in the appropriate file cabinet by school personnel.

- Students can stop down at their earliest convenience (between classes, on their way to lunch, etc.) to pick up these items.
- **It is not permitted for parents to drop off lunches and/or drinks for groups of students (e.g. pizza, fast food, other take-out food, etc.).**
- **Students are also not permitted to order take-out food to be delivered (e.g. Uber Eats, Grubhub, DoorDash, etc.).**

For those parents and families who have been with us before and those who are just now joining the Berner family, prioritizing safety is our main concern. We thank you for your patience, understanding, and support; all of us at Berner look forward to seeing our students have an amazing school year!

Sincerely,

**Jason Esposito, Beth Mullins-Peck, Keri Wing, Rob Tucker, Kristen Meoli,
Ed Hoffman, and Ken Petersen**