

Black Water Middle School



September Bear Updates

September 1-30, 2025

Important Upcoming Dates/ Mark Your Calendar:

9/1/25- Labor Day 9/3/25- Football Scrimmage at AMS 9/8/25- International Literacy Day 9/10/25- Football Game home vs. OBM 9/16/26- Football Game Home vs. TOMS	9/18/25- Back to School Dance- 4-6pm- Cafeteria 9/23/25- Football home vs. NMBM 9/25/25- School Improvement Council Meeting-8:45 am- Media Center	9/25/25- Kona Ice for students during recess 9/26/25- First Club Day 2025-2026 9/30/25- Football away vs. CMS
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Important Bear Links

25-26 BWMS Student handbook BWMS Cell Phone Policy BWMS School Website	HCS Student Calendar Payments-MyPaymentsPlus BWMS Facebook Page	
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Administration and Guidance

Brandice Gore -Principal Sara Smith - Assistant Principal-6th grade and 7th-Team 7-1 Spencer Gaither - Assistant Principal-8th grade & 7th-Team 7-2	Julie Hardwick-Guidance Wendy Linen-Guidance
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From the Desk of Ms. Gore

Greetings BWMS Families,

The first two weeks of school have been incredible. It has been enjoyable to watch the growing relationships between students and teachers. I am confident that the 25-26 school year is going to be one of the best yet.

Fall Iready testing has concluded. Student pathways have been established in Iready. Students are expected to complete 2 topics in Iready Reading and Math each week.

Reading, Writing, and Literacy are a major focus this school year. Please join in the reading movement with your student and with our school. We are challenging students to read 1,000 pages each quarter/9 weeks.

Thank you for your continued support of your student and our school. We know and understand that the relationship between home and school is vital. My door is always open. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Principal Gore

International Literacy Day/HCS Reading Challenge-BWMSReads:

On Monday, September 8, 2025, students and staff will participate in International Literacy Day. This will kickstart our first quarter literacy challenge. Superintendent joins has challenged all students to read 1,000 pages per quarter, totaling 4,000 pages for the school year. Students will log their reading in Beanstack which is accessible though Class Link. Join your student, our school, and the district by grabbing a book and reading!



2025-2026 Back to School Dance:

What better way to celebrate the school being off to a great start than with a dance. Tickets will be sold for \$5 during grade level lunches September 15-18.

Wristbands will be distributed to students during DEN on September 18.

Students will stay after school for the dance. Students need to be picked up no later than 6:00 pm.



25-26 Football Schedule:

Come out to support our football players and cheerleaders. Students attending the games are required to be accompanied to games by a parent/adult.

BLACK WATER

FOOTBALL



03 SEP	SCRIMMAGE AWAY 6:00 PM
10 SEP	@ OCEAN BAY AWAY 6:00 PM
16 SEP	TEN OAKS HOME 6:00 PM
23 SEP	NORTH MYRTLE BEACH HOME 6:00 PM
30 SEP	@ CONWAY MIDDLE AWAY 6:00 PM
07 OCT	LORIS HOME 6:00 PM
15 OCT	@ WHITTEMORE AWAY 6:00 PM
21 OCT	@ AYNOR AWAY 6:00 PM
28 OCT	TBD TBD 6:00 PM

Students must be accompanied by an adult!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT COACH PAIGE OR MR. GAITHER
mpaige@horrycountyschools.net
sgaither@horrycountyschools.net

COME SUPPORT
Game Time 6PM

25–26 School Improvement Council:

Parents, your input is valued and imperative for the betterment of our school. Please join us for School Improvement meetings. Our first meeting of the school year will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 8:45 am in the Media Center. The School Improvement Council is intended to advise the principal and the school, focusing on school improvement and attainment of school wide instructional goals. Parents, teachers, and community members serve on the SIC. The SIC is advisory only and parents who want to serve are nominated and elected by other parents. If you would like to serve on the BWMS School Improvement Council, please notify Principal Gore via email at bgore@horrycountyschools.net.

2025–2026 Student Procedures and Information:

Morning Arrival:

Student drop off begins at 7:30 (the gate to release students into the car rider loop will open at 7:30 am daily). Supervision is not available prior to 7:30 and students should not be at school prior to this time. Please ensure that you adhere to this policy for the safety of students.

Afternoon Dismissal:

Car riders should be picked up from school no later than 3:50 pm. Please ensure that you students are aware of being a car rider prior to the end of the day if this is not their normal mode of transportation. Transportation changes should be communicated to the front office staff via phone or email.

Deliveries:

We do not allow deliveries of flowers, balloons, or the like. No outside food is allowed to be delivered.

Water Bottles:

- Students are permitted to bring a sealed or empty water bottle to school to refill in our water fountains/water stations. Water bottles with sports tops are not permitted. Metal and glass water bottles are also not allowed. This is to ensure the safety of our students.

Perfume/Aerosol Spray:

Perfume and aerosol sprays are not permitted. This is to ensure the safety of students.

Attendance Information:**Excused Absences**

- An absence is considered excused if a valid medical doctor's (with the date and time the student was seen) is provided within 3 school days after the absence. Online Medical visits with medical notes and/or screenshots that contain the student's name, date of birth, and results of the online visit (prescription, number of days out before the student's return to school, etc.)
- An absence for bereavement, due to the death in the student's immediate family, may be excused if an obituary or program of service verifying the death is provided to the attendance clerk within 3 school days after the student returns to school.
- An absence for a nationally recognized religious holiday of the student's faith may be excused if a request is made in writing to the principal and written approval is received prior to the absence.
- Parents are allowed to submit up to (6) notes per school year to excuse student absences for any reason they deem necessary. Notes may be submitted in advance of a planned absence.
- For unplanned absences, parent notes must be submitted within three (3) school days after the student returns.
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- Late notes (submitted after the three-day window) will not be accepted, and the absence will remain unexcused.
- High school students will be allowed three (3) parent notes per semester.
- Parent notes will not be accepted during designated state testing dates.

Spirit Rock



The BWMS Spirit Rock is available for rental. For information about available dates and procedures for the rental of the rock, please see the spirit rock rental on our school webpage or contact Kimberly Weaks- kweeks@horrycountyschools.net