Welcome Back!!!

It is with excitement that I welcome you to Bismarck High School for the 2023-2024 school year. I hope that you have enjoyed your summer and have been able to spend time with family and friends.

The beginning of the school year is just around the corner, and as a staff, we are working hard to ensure that we are prepared for the 1370+ students that will be coming through our doors on August 24th. We want to challenge our students to take courses that will allow them to leave Bismarck High School college and career ready. In addition to taking a rigorous course load, we want to encourage students to be involved in extra-curricular activities and clubs at Bismarck High School. High school is a wonderful time in a student’s life, and we hope that you take advantage of the vast opportunities offered here at BHS. It is our goal that through rigorous course selection and participation in extra-curricular activities, students will leave Bismarck High School prepared for life in the 21st Century.

As a school, it is vitally important that we collaborate with parents and guardians to educate our students successfully. Although PowerSchool and technology have replaced some communication regarding grades, we encourage you to attend parent teacher conferences and call us if you have questions or concerns. Our goal, much like yours, is to help our students find success and then build on those successes.

I look forward to the start of the school year and the opportunity to work with you and your children. Enjoy the rest of the summer and remember, "It is always a great day to be a Demon!"

David Wisthoff – BHS Principal
Two Open Houses at BHS

Freshman Open House

A Freshman Open House will be held on Tuesday, August 15th for all incoming freshmen and their parents. Please come to the Gilbreath Auditorium at the time designated below for a brief orientation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student’s Last Name</th>
<th>A-K  5:30pm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student’s Last Name</td>
<td>L-Z  6:30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Following the presentation, students can pick up their 2023-2024 class schedule and their Chromebook. They will then have an opportunity to look for their classrooms. Schedules will not be mailed out to freshman students. Parents may also purchase the following items:

- Student Planners $5.00 / Parking Permits $5.00
- Student Athletic Passes $30.00 (Adult pass $85)
- Activity Fee $50.00
- Deposits may be made for student’s lunch account.

Lines will be long this night, so you may prefer to pay from home via www.MyPaymentsPlus.com (MPP) or you can come into the office during business hours. MPP will NOT be used for lunch accounts this year. Details on page 13.

** Concessions will be available (Evirothon fundraiser) so come hungry, and the Demon Den will be open for BHS gear.

Parent Night

Parent Night will be held on Monday, August 28th from 6:00–8:00 p.m. Parents of all students’ grades 9-12 are invited to attend. There is no set schedule.

- Bring a copy of your students’ schedule. You can walk around BHS and meet your students’ teachers.
- The Demon Den (school store) will be open for BHS gear.
**Bismarck High School Schedule 2023-2024**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>EARLY BIRD</th>
<th>TUTORING</th>
<th>PERIOD 1</th>
<th>PERIOD 2</th>
<th>PERIOD 3</th>
<th>4th PERIOD LUNCH</th>
<th>PERIOD 4 (AD-TIME)</th>
<th>5th PERIOD LUNCH</th>
<th>PERIOD 5 (AD-TIME)</th>
<th>6th PERIOD LUNCH</th>
<th>PERIOD 6 (AD-TIME)</th>
<th>PERIOD 7</th>
<th>PERIOD 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Some of our BHS students attend classes at BPS Career Academy/Tech Center on the BSC campus. The schedule for those classes is listed below.

Bus transportation is provided to and from these classes. Buses load on the east side of BHS just off the courtyard.

**Career Academy/Tech Center Daily Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EB-1</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>7:25-8:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>9:25-10:55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>11:55-1:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-8</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>1:55-3:25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Career Academy/Tech Center Bus Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Block</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Block A | Leave BHS - 7:10 a.m.  
|         | Arrive CA/TC - 7:20 a.m.  
|         | Leave CA/TC - 9:00 a.m.  
|         | Arrive BHS - 9:10 a.m.  |
| Block B | Leave BHS - 9:15 a.m.  
|         | Arrive CA/TC - 9:25 (this is the start time)  
|         | Leave CA/TC - 11:00 a.m.  
|         | Arrive BHS - 11:10 a.m.  |
| Block C | Leave BHS - 11:40 a.m.  
|         | Arrive CA/TC - 11:50 a.m.  
|         | Leave CA/TC - 1:30 p.m.  
|         | Arrive BHS - 1:40 p.m.  |
| Block D | Leave BHS - 1:44 p.m.  
|         | Arrive CA/TC - 1:54 p.m.  
|         | Leave CA/TC - 3:28 p.m.  
|         | Arrive BHS - 3:38 p.m.  |
First Day Information

Students will attend a full day of classes on Thursday, August 24, 2023. Students should check their schedule on PowerSchool the first morning because adjustments to the master schedule may have been made prior to the first day of school.

To access Class Schedule, students should:
1. Log on to the PowerSchool App on a mobile device (they can download the PS App to their device and will be required to enter a “District Code”- CSMK to complete the login process.)

2. Log on to the student/parent portal from the PowerSchool link located on the BHS website or BPS website.

To view a class schedule with room numbers, students with Apple devices must log in through the PowerSchool Website through BPS apps.

Students without access to a phone/computer, should stop at the office.

There is no standard school supply list. Bring a notebook and pencil to class.

Students who begin their school day at the Career Academy/Tech Center should attend class at that location. Buses will be available to take students to the Career and Tech Campus beginning at 7:10 a.m. A full bus schedule is available on page 3.

Lockers

Freshman: Your locker number and combination will be printed on your schedule.

Sophomore/Junior/Seniors: If you would like a locker, please stop by the attendance office to have one assigned.
BHS Office Hours

The BHS Administration office is open Monday-Thursday, 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Please use the direct numbers listed below to reach the following departments:

Attendance 323-4803
Student Services 323-4802
Administration Office 323-4800

Message from Student Services

Student’s counselor will be based off the student’s last name. This list will be available online under Student Services/ Counseling, we hope you find this user friendly.

https://www.bismarckschools.org/domain/584

Students A-F Counselor: Karmen Wahl
Students G-K Counselor: MiKayla Brown
Students L-R Counselor: Barb Coyle
Students S-Z Counselor: Julie Berg

Virtual Office

The virtual office is a quick and easy tool to access links to many resources and locate information quickly. Counselors are constantly updating and adding information as needed. The virtual office is especially useful for scholarships, registration information, ACT, college info, dual credit and much more!

bhstips@bpsapps.org

SOPHOMORES, JUNIORS, AND SENIORS

National Honor Society

Students interested in being inducted or renewing as a member in National Honor Society for 2023-24 should continue to volunteer to receive SERVICE HOURS (minimum 15 hours of which 8 hours need to be tier 1). All hours will be due the end of February 2024. If you have any questions see Ms. Cledera, room 318 or visit the website, https://sites.google.com/a/bismarckschools.org/bps-nhs/home
Upcoming Events

August 15th – Freshman Open House
Student’s Last Name
A-K 5:30pm / L-Z 6:30pm

August 24th – First Day of School

August 28th – Parent Open House
All Students: 6-8pm

September 4 – Labor Day – (No School)

September 8 – BHS Homecoming vs. Davies

September 14 – Picture Day

September 25 – Staff Dev. Day (No School)

October 16 & 17 – Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 18 – College Fair

October 19 & 20 – Administrators Convention
(No School)

October 25 – Picture Retake

November 9 & 10 – Veterans Day (No School)

November 23 & 24 – Thanksgiving
(No School)

December 22 – Last Day of School - Holidays

To keep up to date with the school year, please get familiar with the BHS website.

BHS Announcements

School Supply
Chromebook Repair
Upcoming Events
BHS Fees - My Payments Plus
New Student Registration

View All

Daily announcements are posted on the TV in the commons area. In addition, the announcements are posted on the BHS Homepage under BHS Announcements. 

https://www.bismarckschools.org/BHS

It is extremely important that BHS have correct demographic information on each student. If your email or phone # has changed, please call 323-4800 or email tara_theurer@bismarckschools.org to update.

https://www.bismarckschools.org/BHS
BHS FACEBOOK PAGE / MARQUEE

If you have any news, you’d like to share with the BHS family, please email your details to Cassie Bauer. We’ve been using this tool for information more and more. It can help promote fundraising, accomplishments, school news, etc.

The marquee allows us to acknowledge BHS accomplishments instantly. We’ve been able to welcome class reunions, note the days where there is no school, congratulate a team or an individual, etc. This has been a huge addition to the tradition of BHS.

TRIBUTE TO ACHIEVEMENTS

Bismarck High School acknowledges the awards and honors that our staff and students achieve during the year. We will try very hard to catch every achievement. If your student receives honors or an award this year, please call or email Cassie Bauer with the information. This will help assure that we do not miss anyone.

If you have a picture of your student winning an award. Or if you are a coach and have a team picture, please email that with your details. This is great for the BHS Facebook page.

The accomplishments are:

- Posted on the BHS website under About Our School / School News
  https://www.bismarckschools.org/Page/1605
- Highlighted in the yearbook.
- Placed on the BHS Facebook page.
- Put on the marquee.

Cassie Bauer 701-323-4800 ext. 6006
cassie_bauer@bismarckschools.org
Welcome back for the 2023-24 school year! Again, this year, BPS is utilizing an online registration system to help streamline the paperwork process for students who participate in activities. **To complete registration for your student so that he/she is eligible to participate here is what needs to be done:**

- A physical examination must be completed prior to your student participating in a practice. Physicals are good for the current school year if they took place on or after April 15\textsuperscript{th} of the preceding school year. There will be a section in the online registration for you to upload the physical. A valid copy of the physical must be uploaded here [https://bismarck-ar.rschooltoday.com/](https://bismarck-ar.rschooltoday.com/) or your student will not be eligible to participate.
- Complete the online registration for your student. A link is available from each school’s activities page that will take you to the online registration. Click on the icon for activities registration. In this process, you will be asked to fill out some general information, upload a physical (if you are able), complete the code of conduct form, complete a medical history/information section, and complete a section on concussions.
- Pay the appropriate activity fee in one of two ways.
  - Activity fees can be paid in the office at your student’s school, or you may choose to take advantage of [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com).
  - MyPaymentsPlus allows you to pay for all activity fees in addition to depositing lunch money, paying for parking passes, etc. and does not charge a fee to do so. MyPaymentsPlus also allows you to see a history of your payments, so you know when you made a payment and what the amount was.

Once you have completed the online registration, uploaded a physical and paid the fee for your student he/she should be registered and ready to go for the school year. You should not have to complete a new registration each time a new season rolls around if all items (including all activity fees for the year) were taken care of in the initial registration. You may choose to pay your activity fees each season or you may choose to pay them all up front if you know your student will be participating in that activity.

If you have any questions about the online activity registration, please do not hesitate to contact your school activities director at the contact number or email listed for them.
Activity Fees

Activity fees must be paid before students can participate in any sport, club, or activity. Activity fees may be paid in the BHS Administration office.

- Fees for major sports at the high school level are $50 for each sport.
- Individual maximum of $125 and a family maximum of $200 yearly.

Students involved in our music programs can expect the following fees:

- Band Uniform Fees: $60.00
- Choir Fee: $20.00
- Band Instrument Maintenance Fee: $110.00/year
- Orchestra Instrument Maintenance Fee: $110.00/year

Payments can be made by using MyPaymentsPlus [www.mypaymentsplus.com](http://www.mypaymentsplus.com) or sending check/cash.

Athletic Season Tickets

Student season tickets will be available by August 14th for $30 in the BHS Administration office. These tickets are valid for admission to all Bismarck High School home games. Single admission price is $4 for students.

There is a $1 surcharge for any event held at the Community Bowl or Civic Center. This surcharge also applies to those holding student athletic tickets or adult season tickets. For those without season tickets, Community Bowl or Civic Center events cost $5 for students and $7 for adults.

Adult and Senior season tickets will be available by August 14th at the Activities Office at 806 N. Washington, at the gate at home games or at BHS. Passes purchased through MyPayments Plus [www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com) have to be picked up at BHS. The price is $85 for a combination BHS/CHS/LHS season ticket. Single adult admission price is $6. Senior citizen season tickets are $50 for those 62 years old and over and are valid for all BHS home games.

All other events:
- Adult $6.00 / Student $4.00
**Athletic Trainer – Schedule**

We hope your student never needs to see the athletic trainer but if your student is ever injured in a sporting event, we have a trainer onsite. Parents can see the trainers schedule on the BPS website [https://www.bismarckschools.org/Page/166](https://www.bismarckschools.org/Page/166).

**BPS Activities / District Activities**

**Sports Medicine**

Top part will be which games they’ll be at.

Scroll to the bottom and see when they are at BHS.

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**Parent / Player Meetings**

**BHS Girls Golf** – August 9th – 7pm at Gilbreath Auditorium

**Boys Tennis** – August 16th – 6pm at Gilbreath Auditorium

**Boys’ & Girls’ Cross Country** – August 17th - 6pm at Gilbreath Auditorium

**BHS Football** – August 18th – 6:30pm at Gilbreath Auditorium

**BHS Volleyball** – August 21st – 6:30pm at Gilbreath Auditorium

**BHS Girls Swimming** – August 22nd – 6:30pm at Gilbreath Auditorium

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**BHS Homecoming week is September 5-8**

**BHS DEMONS VS. FARGO DAVIES**
Parents and students can now access report cards, test scores, etc. from their students DocumentLOK:

Student Documents in PowerSchool

A Parent and Student Guide

Certain documents are made available to parents and students on the BPS PowerSchool Parent/Student portal. To access these documents, follow the steps below:

1. Access the BPS PowerSchool parent/student portal from the BPS Website:

2. Select the student

3. Click on the DocumentLOK menu item:

4. Document Categories and the number of documents in each category will be listed on the left:

   Student Documents -

5. 

6. To View a document, click on the View icon

7. To Download a document, click on the Download icon

8. To download multiple documents, check Select Multiple, check the documents you want to download and click the Download icon above the table header:
The *Demon Den* is Bismarck High’s school store. If you have not had a chance to check it out, it’s a must see. During the school day, the school store is run by our students. It has everything a Demon would need; clothing, stickers, lanyards, etc.

*Demon Den* items are sold at a lot of home games. They will also have some evening hours: Freshman Open House – August 15th from 5:30-7:30pm, Parent Open House – August 28th from 6-8pm, during every parent/teacher conference night.

**Bismarck Schools Accepts Credit Cards**

Credit card payments can be made for many of the financial transactions, which are typically made with the school. Such items include:

- Activity fees
- Planners
- Parking permits

If you have made deposits to your child’s lunch account in the past, you already have an account through MyPaymentsPlus. If you have not, you will need to register with [www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com) in order to access the setup for your child/children. In order to register, you will need to know your child’s student number. Once you create an account, you will be able to see all the options available to your child.

**Please note, there is NO TRANSACTION FEE**
MyPaymentsPlus (MPP) will not be used this year for lunch accounts.

The BPS meal payment platform has changed to a new system called LINQ Connect. This system will provide parents with more control over school lunch accounts while offering many convenient new features. Activity and library fees will continue to be processed with My Payments Plus. All families with students who eat school lunches must create an account for LINQ Connect. Balances from the old system will automatically be transferred over.

Registering is simple, just follow these steps:

1. REGISTER at linqconnect.com by clicking on the register button near the upper right-hand corner. Next, input your name, email address, and password. Choose your language and timezone and check the I agree to the Terms of Use box. Finally, click submit.
2. VERIFY YOUR ACCOUNT by opening your email and clicking on the verification link sent to you from LINQ Connect. After doing so, please click the Back to LINQ Connect button in the email.
3. SIGN IN. You should be automatically signed in, but if not please click the login button in the upper right-hand corner.

To add students:
1. After logging into LINQ Connect, click the plus sign in the upper right-hand corner.
2. An “Add” menu will appear. Here, you will choose type, which will be student for student accounts. Next, type in “Bismarck Public Schools” for the district area.
3. Now you will be able to input your child’s first name, last name, and birthdate in order to add a student. Please note that the name must match what is in PowerSchool.

Adding Auto Pay
1. On your account homepage, click the Add Money to Account button.
2. You now have options to transfer balances or add auto pay.
3. Click Add Auto Pay and fill out your payment account information. The frequency option allows you to choose when payments will occur.

Download the new LINQ Connect app in the Google Play Store available now, or visit LINQConnect.com to manage all your payments in one convenient location. An Apple Store version will be available soon. Within the LINQ Connect portal, you can set up one-time or recurring payments for your students’ meals, view previous transactions, set spending limits, transfer funds between students, set low-balance notifications, and more. It’s an easy way to manage meal payments without the hassle of sending cash.

Families who feel they might qualify for free or reduced meals should pick up an application in the BHS administration office, from the students’ counselor or they will be available online after August 6th https://www.bismarckschools.org/Page/2193.
School Photos

Jostens PIX will be taking school photos. These photos will be used for student IDs and for the yearbook. Here is the schedule:

THURSDAY – SEPTEMBER 14TH
ALL BHS STUDENTS
8:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Knaak Center

Photos will be taken during English classes. If you DO NOT have an English class – please have your photo taken before your classes begin for the day or during your lunch/free period in the Knaak Center.

Parents will have the opportunity to preview the pictures online and personalize the photos with background and text. Photos will be shipped directly to your home and are also downloadable.

SENIOR PICTURE DEADLINE

Senior pictures must be turned in to the yearbook advisor by January 31st, 2024. If not, Josten's photo will be used in the yearbook.

Important Details for Pictures:

- jpg format only
- At least 300dpi / Which is about 1MB file.

Submit Photo By Senior Picture Submission

or

- Drop off at room 204.
- Make sure students' first & last name is on the photo.

Senior Parents: To help you stay organized for this busy year, please watch the BHS website under Graduates/ Graduation. Important dates and information for seniors will be added to this site. https://www.bismarckschools.org/domain/668
New Staff at Bismarck High

We are excited to welcome the following staff members to Bismarck High.

- Amanda Anderson  
  Art
- MiKayla Brown  
  Counselor
- Reagan Celaya  
  ED Teacher
- Jodi Connell  
  Sign Language
- Courtney Crane  
  Science
- Matt Crane  
  Activities Director
- Leonard Curtin  
  German
- Josie Eyers  
  English
- Erika Frame  
  ELL
- Hannah Houle  
  English
- Alex Kaseman  
  School within a School
- Christian Medick  
  PE / AVID
- Maureen Murchie  
  Orchestra
- Amy Nelson  
  ED
- Vanessa Pangan  
  Math
- Colette Roller  
  English
- Alyda Sigette  
  ID
- Hunter Sigette  
  Freshman Recovery
- Kylie Wahl  
  ED
- Amber Zahn  
  ED
- Mark Lardy  
  Assistant Principal
Parent/Guardian of Juniors and Seniors:

The North Dakota Department of Health School Immunization Requirements requires a second dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4) for students entering eleventh or twelfth grade.

MCV4 protects against meningococcal disease. Meningococcal disease is a serious bacterial infection that can cause meningitis, and possibly lead to death or permanent disability within hours of first symptoms. Meningococcal disease is contagious and can be very serious in young people.

Ideally, children should receive one dose of MCV4 when they are eleven to twelve years old and a booster dose on or after their sixteenth birthday. The first dose of MCV4 is required for seventh grade entry. With recent rule changes, one dose of MCV4 is now required for grades eighth through tenth, if missed at seventh grade. Two doses of MCV4 are required for grades eleventh and twelfth.

Please schedule an appointment with your child’s health care provider or your local public health department today.
**Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)**

The efforts of the Parent Advisory Council truly make a difference for our school. Therefore, we’d like to invite you to participate in our Parent Advisory Council.

We will meet at 12:00pm on the third Thursday of each month in the library on the second floor at BHS. The schedule of meetings is September 21, October 26, November 16, December 21, January 18, February 15, March 21, April 17, May 16 (October and April are the exception).

We invite you to be our guest at lunch. Go through any of our lunch lines to pick up your lunch before reporting to the library.

Those who actively participate in PAC will also get reserved seating at graduation once their senior graduates.

If you have any questions, feel free to email cassie_bauer@bismarckschools.org.

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**Information for Parents:**

Turnitin is an online program used by teachers and students to help ensure the integrity of student work by detecting plagiarism. Students agree that papers in 9th– 12th grade courses may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database so that students can avoid plagiarism and improve their writing. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

**BHS Teachers are Highly Qualified**

The federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 requires teachers in K-12 schools to meet the definition of Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) through three criteria: 1) minimum of a bachelor's degree, 2) full state teacher certification, and 3) demonstrated subject matter knowledge in each core academic subject assigned to teach, including Bilingual, English Language Learner, and Special Education classrooms. All Bismarck High School teachers have met the requirements necessary to retain this status.

Through federal education law, parents have the right to request information on the professional qualifications of the teachers and paraprofessionals at our school. If you are interested in learning this information, please contact the school administration office at (701) 323-4800. Upon this request, you will receive a detailed explanation of the licensing, education, and experience of each of our teachers. You will also receive information regarding the names and qualifications of the paraprofessionals at our school(s).
PowerSchool Sign-On

PowerSchool provides parents with a “single sign-on” to access all their children’s information.

When you log on to PowerSchool for the first time, or if you have not logged on to PowerSchool for some time, please follow the steps below:

1. **Click “Create Account” Button** – Begin by going to the PowerSchool parent portal at https://bismarck.ps.state.nd.us or the Bismarck Public Schools homepage and click on the PowerSchool logo. The first time signing in click on the “Create Account” button to create a Single Sign-On (SSO) account, which can be linked to one or more students.

2. **Create an Account** – Enter your first name, last name, and email address in the top section. Also, enter what you would like your username to be and a secure password.

   In the bottom section, you can link one or more students to your account. Enter each student’s name, ID, password, and your relationship to that student. The Access ID and Password were previously used to sign in to PowerSchool. Now these will be used to give you “access” to your student. Contact the school office at 701-323-4800 if you do not know the ID and password.

3. **Sign in with Your Account** – Sign into PowerSchool using your personal SSO username and password created in Step 2.

For more information, click on the “Learn More” link on the PowerSchool Parent Portal or contact your school office at 323-4800 and press zero to speak to a secretary.

HAVE A GREAT 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR!!!