

A-Z INFO about BPS 2020-2021

Admission Process: New families to Bismarck Public Schools will need to make an appointment with the Central Registration office to register their children for school. Go online to www.bismarckschools.org and complete the required paperwork under Registration. Before a child can be enrolled, we will need to establish residency and certain housing records will be required. The Registration office also requires a state-certified birth certificate, updated immunization records, etc. Call 701-323-4110 with questions or to make an appointment.

Adult Education: Bismarck Public School District's Adult Learning Center is located in the Bismarck Technical Center, 1200 College Drive, which is on the campus of Bismarck State College. Services include GED prep classes (English Language Arts, math, science and social studies), college prep., English Learner, Displaced Homemaker, basic computer literacy, and individual and group career exploration and preparation. Full time, part time and online classes are available on a regular basis. Call 701-323-4530 to get more information on registration.

Advanced Placement: Bismarck, Century and Legacy High Schools offer Advanced Placement (AP) classes: Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Computer Principles, Computer Science, English Literature, English Composition, Environmental Science, Government, Music Theory, Physics I & II, Psychology, Statistics, and U.S. History. At the end of a course, students who successfully complete AP exams receive college credit from participating colleges/universities. To learn more, visit with a high school counselor. NOTE: if there aren't enough students enrolled for a particular AP class, it may not be offered at that school that year.

After-School Programs: All of our elementary schools have fee-based after-school programs. Most offer BLAST (Bismarck's Life After School Time) run by the Bismarck Parks and Recreation District. Students participate in supervised arts and crafts activities, organized games, homework help and recreation. The program is run from 3-6 PM on school days. In 2018-19, BLAST schools are Centennial, Grimsrud, Liberty, Murphy, Northridge, Prairie Rose, Solheim, and Sunrise. Call the Parks and Rec for information, 701-222-6771. CREA (formerly MREC) receives federal funds to run Extended School Programs (ESP) at Miller, Moses, Myhre, Pioneer, and Will-Moore. Lincoln has a fee-based program run by CREA. Hours of operation are 7-8 AM and 3-5:30 PM for the grant sites and 3-6 PM at Lincoln. CREA sites provide a snack, recreation time, homework help, and 65% engaging academic time. Call 701-751-4041 or go to www.mrecnd.org for individual school site contact information. Lastly, Roosevelt and Highland Acres run their own after-school programs. Call those schools at 701-323-4240 (Roosevelt) or 701-323-4160 (Highland Acres).

Assessments: In grades K-5, the school district uses www.aimswebPlus to measure student progress in both reading and math. These assessments are administered in the fall, winter and spring. BPS also uses Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing in reading and math three times a year in grades 2 through 8. The ND State Assessments (NDSA) which includes Science, Math, and English Language Arts, is given in grades 3-8 and 10 or 11 in the spring. Grades 9 and 10 take the ACT Aspire assessment fall, winter, and spring. All juniors take the ACT in the spring free of charge. To see some of these test scores, go to the "Testing" section in this report.

Athletics: (see "Extracurricular")

Attendance: School attendance is a high priority in the community. In 2019-2020, the average daily attendance rate in Bismarck Public Schools was 96.7%. North Dakota law requires compulsory attendance in public school for children under the age of 16. Student handbooks spell out specific attendance policies for elementary, middle level, and senior high students, including types of excused and unexcused absences. Senior highs have a final test exemption policy for regular attendance, which is outlined in their student handbooks.

BECEP: It stands for Bismarck Early Childhood Education Program. Six programs are available for eligible preschool-age children.

- Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) is for children ages 3 to 5 who demonstrate delays in development and qualify for an Individual Education Plan (IEP) under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). There are no income guidelines.
- Community Friends (CF) is for children ages 3 to 5 who demonstrate age-appropriate skill development. They are enrolled in ECSE classes with children on IEPs. There is a fee and transportation is not available.
- Early Intervention (EI) is for children birth to age 3 with disabilities or delays in development in Region VII.
- Head Start (HS) is a free, quality preschool program for children ages 3 to 5 from income-eligible families in Burleigh, Emmons and Kidder counties.
- Early Head Start (EHS) provides early, continuous, intensive and comprehensive child development and family support services to infants, toddlers and their families.
- Right Track (RT) provides free in-home developmental screenings for children ages birth to 3, and information and support services for their parents in Region VII. For information call 701-323-4400 or stop by 720 N. 14th St.

Books: Necessary textbooks, non-consumables and lab materials are typically furnished by the school district. Parents must replace lost or damaged books. Principals and teachers can help suggest which consumable materials (paper, pencils, rulers, etc.) students should bring to school. There may also be supply fees in some classes such as sewing, art, etc. If a child needs financial assistance for school supplies or fees, please contact the school counselor.

Boundaries: The school district is divided by boundaries to help ensure appropriate distribution of students. To determine which schools your child will attend, go to https://app.guidek12.com/bismarcknd/school_search/current/. Parents are encouraged to send their children to the schools in their attendance areas; some transfers are allowed (see "Transfers").

Breakfast: (see "Child Nutrition")

Budget: The district budget for 2020-2021 is projected at \$175 million. In 2019-20, about 69% of school district revenue came from state government, 22% from local taxes, and 9% from federal sources. On the expense side, about 86% of the budget is spent on salaries and fringe benefits. The rest is for purchased services, supplies and materials, capital improvements, and utilities.

Busing: (see "Transportation")

Camp Edventure: In grades 1-5, there is a 6-week summer school program called Camp Edventure designed to boost academic success of all elementary students. It runs from 8 am to noon daily and is state-funded and free to students. Classes are no larger than 15 students per teacher. For more information on elementary summer school, call 701-323-4280.

Career and Technical Education: Bismarck Public Schools offers a variety of Career and Technical elective course options for students. The three middle schools, Horizon, Wachter, and Simle, offer classes in Family and Consumer Science and Technology and Engineering Education. Three high schools, Bismarck, Century, and Legacy, have courses in Family and Consumer Science, Marketing, Business/Marketing, and Medical Related Careers.

At the Career Academy and Technical Center located on the Bismarck State College campus, BPS students and other area high school students have an opportunity to take Agriculture, Architecture, Auto Collision, Auto Technology, Aviation, Carpentry, Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Digital/Graphic Design, Electronics, Energy & Power Systems, Foundations of Engineering, Horticulture, Math for the 21st Century, Medical Related Careers II, Prevention & Care of Athletic Injuries, Robotics, and Welding. Articulation and Dual Credit arrangements with post-secondary institutions are available upon request. To learn more, call the Career Academy, 701-323-4340.

Child Nutrition: Breakfast and lunch are available for students at all Bismarck Public Schools. Elementary students pay \$1.45 for breakfast; lunch is \$2.35. Middle school and senior high students pay \$1.55 for breakfast; \$2.85 for lunch, depending on a la carte items purchased. Adults pay \$2.20 for breakfast; \$3.60 for lunch. Reduced breakfast is free; reduced lunch cost is 40-cents. Applications for free or reduced meals are available from the Child Nutrition Office, 701-323-4090 or online at <https://www.bismarckschools.org/Page/2193>.

Class Size: The district tries to keep elementary class size at a maximum of 23 students in grades K-3 and 28 students in grades 4-5. If a classroom has more students than the preferred number, a teacher aide is usually provided. Average class size in grades K-5 in 2018-2019 was 20.3 students.

Computers: Bismarck Public Schools has computers in all classrooms. The student-to-computer ratio in grades 5-12 is 1 to 1; and it's 2 to 1 in grades 3-4, and 3 to 1 in grades K-2.

Conferences: Parent-teacher conferences are held at all public schools; schools set their own schedules for conferences, usually in the fall and spring. This year, the parent-teacher conference days OFF will be December 23, 2020 and April 5, 2021 for students in grades K-12.

Counseling:

All elementary schools have a full time or part time counselor. In addition, schools have student assistance teams made up of administrators, teachers, and other specialists. Middle schools serve about 1,000 students and employ 3 counselors each. At the senior highs, counselors provide

students with academic, career and personal guidance. Bismarck, Century, and Legacy high schools each have 4 counselors serving 1,200-1,300 students each. South Central has 1 counselor for about 50 students, and the Bismarck Career Academy and Technical Center combined have 2 career advisors which serve the four high schools.

Course Load: The minimum course load for high school seniors is 5 classes per semester; 6 classes for juniors and sophomores, 7 class periods for freshmen, and 7 to 8 class periods for middle school students.

Curriculum: Bismarck Public Schools curriculum is formally reviewed and revised on an ongoing basis. New courses, materials, and activities are frequently added. The Director for Professional Learning can provide further information. Call 701-323-4084.

Elementary, K-5: The district offers a comprehensive elementary school curriculum which includes English Language Arts (reading, writing, speaking), math, social studies, science and health. All students also have a regular weekly library period, art, and music instruction. Physical education classes taught by trained P.E. instructors are offered in grades K-5.

Middle School, 6-8: In middle school, students take the following courses each year: English, social studies/history, math, science, and physical education. Other classes such as health, reading, communication and career education are also required. Elective courses include digital literacy, STEM, band, orchestra, choir, art, study strategies, Family and Consumer Science, industrial technology, foreign language, and other career and technical courses. Contact any middle level school for a copy of its course catalog or visit a middle school under the “Schools” link at the top of the page at www.bismarckschools.org.

High School, 9-12: BPS requires students to have a minimum of 24 credits to graduate-- 15 required courses and 9 electives. The required core subjects include 4 credits of English, 3 credits of social studies, 3 credits of math, 3 credits of science, and 2 credits of physical education. Students receive their elective credits by choosing from a multitude of classes offered at Bismarck, Century, Legacy, South Central, and the Career Academy. Contact any of these facilities for a complete course catalog or visit www.bismarckschools.org, choose the “Schools” link and navigate to a high school site.

Digital Learning: There are a variety of digital learning environments at Bismarck Public Schools. The district offers several methods for teachers and students, kindergarten through High School, to access course assignments, resources, formative assessments and activities. Bismarck Public Schools supports a learning management system for designing and delivering fully online or blended courses. BPS is a member of the Great Western Network, an entity that provides interactive TV services for area school districts. For more information, call the BPS Technology Director, 701-323-4041.

Drop Out Rate: In 2019-2020, Bismarck, Century, and Legacy High Schools had an annual dropout rate of 1.2% or 15 seniors.

Elementary: Bismarck Public Schools has 16 neighborhood schools, serving 6,031 students, grades K-5, at the beginning of 2020-2021. Contact any elementary school for information or call the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools, 701-323-4068.

Eligibility: The North Dakota High School Activities Association governs extracurricular activities. For information on participation and eligibility requirements, call Bismarck School District's Activities Office, 701-323-4080.

Emergency School Closings: The Superintendent of Schools may close schools in the event of hazardous weather, epidemics, or other emergencies that threaten the safety or health of students and staff. In the case of inclement weather, the Business and Operations Director will make a recommendation to the Superintendent by 5 AM. If schools are to be closed, the Superintendent will alert all local news media. The official weather station is KFYP AM 550. Once school starts, buildings will not be closed unless we are directed by authorities to do so. During bad weather, parents should use their judgment in determining whether their children should attend. For school information during an emergency, check your school email, our Facebook page, web page (www.bismarckschools.org) or local news media. Depending on the situation, BPS will also call, email and or text parents who have provided the school district with contact information.

Employees: The Bismarck Public School District is an equal opportunity employer. Most employees are screened, tested and interviewed at length before being hired. The district is one of the largest employers in the city, with full-time, part-time and seasonal staff. The following is a breakdown of employees at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year: teaching staff=1,110; support staff=861; professional support staff=130; administrators=59; total=2,160.

English Learners (EL): BPS offers programming, as needed, at elementary schools for limited English proficient students under the English Learner program. Call 701-323-4290.

Enrollment: The Bismarck Public School District is the largest in the state. The opening day enrollment for 2020-2021: elementary (K-5) = 6,031; middle school (6-8) = 3,208; senior high (9-12) = 4,037; total = 13,276, a decrease of 36 students over fall 2019.

Extracurriculars:

Elementary: BPS Activities Office number is 701-323-4080. We offer string musical instrument training for children beginning in grade 4. Band begins in middle school in grade 6. The Bismarck Parks and Recreation District runs our elementary athletic programs, 701-222-6455. We also co-sponsor fall co-ed cross country meets and a spring track and field event.

Middle/Senior High: BPS offers many co-curricular activities. Fine arts include a wide variety of music, visual art, speech, and drama opportunities. Athletics include the following sports:

Fall: football, cheerleading, girls' volleyball, girls' swimming & diving, girls' golf, boys' cross country, girls' cross country, boys' soccer, and boys' tennis.

Winter: boys' basketball, boys' hockey, girls' hockey, girls' basketball, gymnastics, figure skating, wrestling, boys' swimming & diving, cheerleading and girls' dance team.

Spring: boys' track, girls' track, girls' soccer, girls' tennis, softball, boys' golf, and baseball.

Inclusive Sport: BPS has an Inclusive Sports program for high school students with special needs and others who want to play.

Field Trips: (see "Transportation")

Foundation: The BPS Foundation is a non-profit organization which accepts donations for programs, scholarships, teacher mini-grants, etc. Call 701-425-2473.

Gifted Education: Bismarck Public Schools has a Gifted Education program. Coordinators work with classroom teachers in the school district's 16 elementary schools. For more information, contact the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Schools, 701-323-4068.

Grading: Elementary school grades are given at the end of each trimester, which are November 20, February 26, and May 28 in 2020-21. Middle school and senior high students receive reports at the end of each nine weeks: October 30, January 15, March 19, and May 28. Standards-based progress reports are used in grades K-8: a score of 1 means the student has limited understanding of the benchmark/goal, a 2 means the student has partially met the benchmark/goal, and a 3 means the benchmark/goal has been met. In grades 9-12, letter grades are used. Grades for traditional report cards are as follows: A = excellent, B = above average, C = average, D = below average, F = failing, and I = incomplete. Senior highs also allow students to take one elective class per semester on a pass/fail or S/U basis: S = satisfactory and U = unsatisfactory. This enables students to receive credit for taking a class without having a letter grade affect their Grade Point Average (GPA).

Graduation: 862 seniors graduated from Bismarck's public high schools by June 30, 2020: BHS =275; CHS = 271; LHS=279; SCHS = 37. In 2021, graduation ceremonies for the South Central High School will be at 4 p.m. at the Career Academy Friday, May 28; the Adult Learning Center graduation will be at 7 p.m. at the Career Academy. Bismarck High, Century and Legacy seniors will graduate Sunday, May 30, at the Bismarck Event Center. LHS is at 1 p.m.; CHS is at 4 p.m.; BHS is at 7 p.m.

Graduation Requirements: BPS requires students to have a minimum of 24 credits to graduate (15 required core subjects and 9 electives). Required subjects are 4 credits of English, 3 credits of social studies, 3 credits of math, 3 credits of science and 2 credits of physical education. The state of North Dakota requires 22 credits.

Head Start: (see "BECEP")

Health Curriculum: One semester of health is offered to all 7th graders, along with additional elements of health being addressed by middle school counselors, and in physical education and science courses. In high school, students may choose to take a more in-depth health class, which includes options in Family and Consumer Science on parenting education. Health at the high school level is also integrated throughout the physical education curriculum. For more information on the health curriculum, call the Director of Professional Learning, 701-323-4084.

High School: Bismarck Public Schools has 4 high schools. Legacy High School opened in 2015 and had 1,370 students in 2020-21 on opening day. Century High opened in 1976 and has been remodeled and added on to for its population of 1,359 students. The present Bismarck High structure built in 1934 has also been remodeled and expanded; BHS saw 1,229 students on the first day in 2020-21. South Central High School is an alternative senior high started in 1983 for

students who have dropped out of a conventional high school. The schedule at SCHS is more flexible, and classes are smaller so students receive more individualized instruction; 79 students were signed up on the first day of school this fall. Total senior high enrollment (grades 9-12) at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year was 4,037. To learn more, call any BPS high school.

Home Education: North Dakota provides an option for parents through which they can educate their own children at home. To learn more, call 701-323-4068.

Homeless (see “Students in Transition”)

Indian Education: Services for American Indian students are in the form of instructional aide services (elementary), home/school liaison (middle & high school), backpacks, and cultural programming that are offered through the Johnson O'Malley program and the Title VI (formerly Title VII) Indian Education program. To learn more, call 701-323-4050.

ITV (Interactive Television): BPS high schools are part of an interactive TV network called Great Western Network with approximately 50 other area schools. Through the use of fiber optic cable and video equipment, BPS staff can teach high school students in these outlying schools, or BPS students can receive courses from other school districts. Call 701-226-2541 or visit <https://sites.google.com/view/greatwesternnetwork/home>.

JOM (Johnson O'Malley): See “Indian Education”.

Kindergarten: The school system offers free full day, every day kindergarten for children who are five years old by July 31 of that school year. Registration starts in January. To learn more, call Central Registration, 701-323-4110.

Library: All Bismarck School libraries are staffed with certified library media specialists. In grades K-5, there are 12.5 elementary library media specialists serving 16 elementary schools. In grades 6-12, there are 6 library media specialists serving 3 middle schools and 5 high schools. All of the school libraries have at least one library aide. Libraries are open before and after school each day. The district Library Media Office at Hughes Educational Center is open during the school year and some summer hours. It provides instructional resources to all BPS educators, as well as area public and private schools who are members of the Teacher Center. The district library web page is at <http://www.bismarckschools.org/library/page/414>. Individual school library web pages have a link from the district library web page and also at the top of each school's home page. For more information on library media services, call 701-323-4075.

Life Education: The Life Education program serves students with disabilities who continue to require special education services beyond grade 12 and have not graduated or received a diploma. Services are functional in nature, and focus on assisting students to prepare for their post-secondary goals in the areas education, employment, and independent living. Special education instruction is provided in the community to the greatest extent possible. Life Education is located at 806 N. Washington St. For more information, call 701-323-4005.

Lunch: (see "Child Nutrition")

Middle School: Bismarck has three schools serving grades 6-8: Horizon, Simle and Wachter. They serve about 1,000 students each for a total population at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year of 3,208 students. For information on curriculum in these schools, call a middle school office or the Curriculum Director, 701-323-4084.

Music: The district employs trained music teachers to provide one hour of instruction each week for all students in grades K-5. In addition, students in grades 4 and 5 may participate in an extracurricular string instructional program. Band instrument instruction is available for 6th graders five days per week. Middle school and senior high students may choose a variety of band, choir and orchestra electives as part of their regular class schedule. They may also take additional music courses as extra-curricular activities. Parents are invited to concerts throughout the school year. These concerts are free at the elementary and middle school level; there is a charge at the senior highs, but booster tickets are available. There is usually a fee for multi-grade music programs and/or concerts held at an outside venue, like the Event Center or Belle Mehus Auditorium. To learn more, call the Fine Arts Office, 701-323-4082 (see "Extra-curricular").

Noon Hours: Lunch times vary from school to school. Elementary and middle school students must stay on campus during the noon hour; senior highs have an open campus policy.

Nurses: Bismarck Public Schools has 5 part-time and 3 full-time school nurses to serve our 16 elementary schools, 1 FT nurse serving BECEP/Head Start, and 1 FT nurse serving Special Education. To learn more, call 701-323-4024.

Open Enrollment: (see "Transfers")

Parent-Teacher Conferences: (see "Conferences")

Parent-Teacher Organizations: Every public school has a parent-teacher group, which provides input to the principal and organizes special school activities and fundraisers. For more information, go to www.bismarckschools.org, Our Schools on top, then choose the school.

Physical Education: The district employs trained physical education instructors to run its physical education program. Students in grades K-3 receive at least 60 minutes of physical education instruction per week; at least 90 minutes for children in grades 4-5. Middle level and senior high students must take one semester of physical education per year.

Physicals: Medical exams are recommended for kids starting kindergarten or 1st grade. Physicals are required each year for students participating in middle or high school athletics.

Pre-School Services: (see "BECEP").

Promotion/Retention: Decisions regarding promotion and retention are made cooperatively between the parent, child, teacher and principal. Factors such as physical and social maturity, stress, health, attitude, effort, and opportunity to improve are considered. It is strongly suggested

that retention take place early in a child's school career (K-2), though retention and promotion are not limited to these grades.

PowerSchool: The school district uses the PowerSchool online system to keep track of student attendance and lunch accounts. All teachers use PowerTeacher gradebook to enter grades and standards. Parents are assigned a code by the school so they can access this information. It's very important for parents to keep their PowerSchool information up to date to receive newsletters and emergency information by email. If you have questions, call the school secretary(s).

Reading Programs:

Title I: Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act provides financial assistance to state and local educational agencies to meet the needs of at-risk children. Title I provides instructional services and activities which support students in meeting the state's challenging performance standards. For the 2020-21 school year, eight public elementary schools (Grimsrud, Northridge, Miller, Moses, Myhre, Pioneer, Roosevelt, and Will-Moore) will receive federal funds through Title I. All of these schools are School-wide Title I schools. The other eight elementary schools in Bismarck are funded by the District Supplemental Reading Program.

- Targeted Title I Program: Uses Title I money to provide instructional services and activities only to eligible children, those identified as having the greatest educational need. A Targeted Title I program operates at schools not eligible for, or not choosing to run, a school-wide program under Title I.
- School-wide Title I Program: Uses its Title I allocation to upgrade the entire school's educational program to raise academic achievement for all students at the school. School-wide programs do not have to identify specific children as eligible for services or separately track federal dollars.

District Reading (vs. Title I): BPS has reading specialists in all 16 public elementary schools for students who need supplemental help in this area. In 2020-21, eight public elementary schools are funded through the District Supplemental Reading Program; eight public elementary schools (Grimsrud, Northridge, Miller, Moses, Myhre, Pioneer, Roosevelt, and Will-Moore) are funded by federal funds through Title I.

Records: Bismarck schools keep cumulative records of grades, achievement tests, attendance and immunization records, and other pertinent student data. These records are confidential and will not be released without parent permission. Records are automatically transferred when a student changes schools within the district. If a student moves outside of the district, copies of the records are provided to the child's new school free-of-charge upon request. Senior high graduates who request copies of transcripts for higher education or employment use will be charged \$2 per transcript. Records are kept at the high schools for 3-4 years. After that, call (701) 323-4059.

Registration: To register a student for school, transfer a student from one BPS school to another, or find out which schools your home address is assigned to, go to www.bismarckschools.org under Registration or call 701-323-4110.

Report Cards: Progress reports are issued at trimesters for grades K-5 (November 20, February 26 and May 28) and every nine weeks during the school year for grades 6-12 (October 30, January 15, March 19 and May 28). Report cards are distributed at parent-teacher conferences in the fall and spring. If parents do not attend, report cards are mailed or sent home with students (see "Grading").

Retention: (see "Promotion/Retention")

School Board: There are five members on the Bismarck School Board who are elected for four-year terms. Elections are held in June. The board members for 2020-2021 are Karl Lembke, president; Jon Lee, vice president, and members Dan Eastgate, Donnell Preskey Hushka, and Matt Sagsveen. The Board holds regular meetings the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 5:15 p.m. in the Tom Baker Room at the City/County Building at 221 N. 5th St. Watch the meetings live or rebroadcast on government channel 12.

School Day: Elementary schools (grades K-5) start at 8:30 AM and end at 3:05 PM. Middle schools (grades 6-8) typically start at 8:10 AM and end at 3:20 PM. Senior highs (grades 9-12) run from 8:25 AM to 3:28 PM. Some early bird classes are also offered by BPS high schools.

Senior High: (see "High School")

Special Education: The Special Education Department provides special education and related services to young people with disabilities ages 3-21. Individualized Education Program (IEP) planning teams determine eligibility for services. Our goal is to support the education of students with disabilities in the general education environment. Call (701) 323-4029.

Sports: (see "Extracurricular")

Student Handbooks: Elementary and senior high schools have handbooks, which contain more detailed information about individual school policies and curriculum. Middle school policies are contained in their student planners.

Students in Transition/Homeless: Bismarck Public Schools is committed to ensuring that children who are homeless have access to quality education. Eligible families or youth are those who lack a stable, adequate, and permanent place to sleep at night. If you or people you know are living in make-shift conditions (motel, car, camper, tent, or with relatives/friends) until they can afford a place of their own, the Students in Transition program can help. Call 701-323-4051.

Summer School: In grades 1-5, there is a 6-week summer program called Camp Adventure designed to boost academic success of all elementary students. It runs from 8 am to noon daily and is state funded and free to students. Classes are no larger than 15 students per teacher. For more information on elementary summer school, call (701) 323-4280. Middle schools and senior highs offer a growing number of free summer school classes in June and July, based on student demand and teacher availability. There is a waiting list, so students are encouraged to register early (January-February) at their schools.

Taxes: On a \$100,000 home, the average taxpayer in 2020-21 will pay about \$482 in school taxes or \$40 a month. The average cost to educate a child in Bismarck in 2018-2019 was \$10,596 compared with the state average of \$12,434 in 2018-19, the most current information available.

Teacher Training: The district is committed to hiring and retaining the best staff possible. Since hundreds of teachers apply for a limited number of openings each year, the school system is able to hire qualified, experienced teachers. The district provides many courses and in-service opportunities so teachers can improve their instructional skills. In our district, 54% of teachers have masters degrees or above.

Test Scores: Bismarck students consistently do well on national standardized tests. For example, the most recent American College Test (ACT) composite scores for high school seniors for 2018-2019 were as follows: BHS = 19.6; CHS = 21.3; LHS = 20.0; ND = 19.9; USA = 20.7. A perfect ACT score is 36. Only a few Bismarck seniors take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) because it is not required for admission to most Midwest colleges and universities.

Also, most BPS students score in the proficient or advanced ranges on the North Dakota State Assessment (NDSA), and they outscore state averages of other N.D. students.

<u>2018-19</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Math</u>	<u>Science</u>
Grade	ND/BPS	ND/BPS	ND/BPS
3	48/47	49/62	-----
4	45/45	43/48	64/64
5	47/50	48/55	-----
6	49/50	47/47	-----
7	49/50	40/39	-----
8	51/48	47/45	64/63
11	44/47	33/30	60/61

The above scores represent students who are proficient or advanced in math, reading and science on the State Assessment. Scores include all students participating in the NDSA, including students with disabilities who were tested with accommodations. ND Alternate Assessment scores are not included in these calculations. For more information, go to “Assessments” above.

Transcripts: (see “Records”)

Transfers Between Schools in Bismarck: Students who live in Bismarck and want to attend a Bismarck Public School outside of the attendance area in which they live must complete a Transfer Request Form. K-12 forms are available online at www.bismarckschools.org under Registration or call Central Registration, 701-323-4110. Requests are approved on a space-available or needs basis. For more information, call the Asst. Superintendent of Elementary, 701-323-4068, or Asst. Superintendent of Secondary, 701-323-4074. There is no open enrollment for students living outside of Bismarck.

Transportation: See the information below or call 701-323-4500 if you have questions.

Elementary (K-5): Busing is available for elementary students who live beyond a half mile from their school. Students must live inside the school’s attendance boundary to be eligible.

Secondary (grades 6-12): Busing is provided to students who live more than one mile from our 3 public middle schools (Horizon, Simle, Wachter) and 3 traditional high schools (BHS, CHS, LHS). Students must live inside the school’s attendance boundary to be eligible.

Rural, Special Needs, or Head Start Busing: We provide transportation for all students living outside the city limits and within the school district boundary. Transportation is also provided for some special needs students as assigned by the Special Services Department, and for eligible Head Start preschool students.

Vocational Education: (see “Career and Technical Education”)

2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR

August 24-28	Staff Development/Work Days	
August 31	First Day of School (A students)	
Sept. 1	First Day of School (B students)	
September 7	Labor Day	
October 22-23	ND School Admin. Convention	No School
October 28	Staff Development Day	No School
November 11	Veterans Day	No School
November 26	Thanksgiving Day	No School
November 27	Thanksgiving Break	No School
December 22	Last Day before the Holidays	
December 23	Parent-Teacher Conference Day Off	No School
January 4	School Reconvenes	
January 18	Martin Luther King Day	No School
February 12	Staff Development Day	No School
February 15	Presidents Day	No School
March 15	Staff Development Day	No School
April 2	Good Friday	No School
April 5	Parent-Teacher Conference Day Off	No School
April 30	*Possible Storm Make Up Day	No School
May 3	*Possible Storm Make Up Day	No School
May 28	Last Day of School	
May 28	S. Central High School Graduation @ Career Academy, 4 p.m.	
	Adult Learning Center Graduation @ Career Academy, 7 p.m.	
May 30	LHS Commencement @ Event Center, 1 p.m.	
	CHS Commencement @ Event Center, 4 p.m.	
	BHS Commencement @ Event Center, 7 p.m.	
May 31	Memorial Day	No School
June 1	Teacher Work Day	No School
June 7-July 16	Camp Edventure Elementary Summer Program (no school July 5)	
June 7-July 14 or 15	Middle School Summer Classes (Mon-Thurs.; no school July 5)	

June 7-June 25 Senior High Summer School #1
June 28-July 16 Senior High Summer School #2 (no classes July 3)

** Designated storm make-up days; students may have to attend school on those days!*

Bismarck Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex in the education programs or activities which it operates, and that it is required by Title IX and Part 86 of the Dept. of Education regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. This requirement not to discriminate extends to educational programs and activities, as well as to employment. Questions? Call the Human Resources Manager, 701-323-4071.

MISSION: Empower every learner to thrive.

VISION: Together, our strong relationships build inclusive, collaborative, and innovative environments that create agency and inspire a passion for learning, excellence, and discovery.

VALUES: Excellence, Innovation, Inclusion and Leadership.

DIRECTORY: (The area code for North Dakota is 701)

Administration, Hughes Building, 806 N. Washington Street:

Main Number	323-4000	Fax: 323-4001
Interim Superintendent	323-4054	Dr. Jason Hornbacher
Asst. Supt. Elementary	323-4068	Brad Barnhardt
Asst. Supt. Secondary	323-4074	Dr. Ben Johnson
Curriculum/Assessment Director	323-4084	Brittany Upton
Special Education Director	323-4029	Danica Nelson
Human Resources Manager	323-4070	Stacy Geiger
Technology Director	323-4041	Dr. Tanna Kincaid
Community Relations Director	323-4091	Rena Walker
Library Media Director	323-4076	Misti Werle

Facilities & Transportation, 705 S. 9th Street:

Receptionist	323-4500	Fax: 323-4505
Business Operations Manager	323-4058	Darin Scherr
Facilities & Transportation Director	323-4501	Jason Mittlestadt
Transportation Coordinator	323-4502	Jason Schafer

Elementary Schools (K-5):

Centennial	323-4290	Michele Svihovec	2800 Ithica Dr.
Grimsrud	323-4150	Haley Haugen	716 St. Benedict Dr.
Highland Acres	323-4160	Brenda Beiswenger	1200 Prairie Dr.
Liberty	323-4320	Alivia Wamboldt	5400 Onyx Dr.
Lincoln	323-4310	Jill Vallejo	3320 McCurry Way
Miller	323-4170	John Alstad	1989 N. 20th St.
Moses	323-4180	Tony Fladeland	1312 S. Columbia Dr.

Murphy	323-4190	Matt Fricke	611 N. 31st St.
Myhre	323-4200	Dr. Shawn Oban	919 S. 12th St.
Northridge	323-4210	Shonda Mertz	1727 N. 3rd St.
Pioneer	323-4220	Jim Jeske	1400 E. Braman Ave.
Prairie Rose	323-4280	Matt Guenther	2200 Oahe Bend
Roosevelt	323-4240	Brenda Beiswenger	613 Avenue B West
Solheim	323-4260	Shelly Swanson	325 Munich Dr.
Sunrise	323-4300	Sarah Jordan	3800 Nickerson Ave.
Will-Moore	323-4270	Charles Dalusong	400 East Ave. E
BECEP@Richholt	323-4400	Valerie Bakken	720 N. 14 th St.

Middle Schools (6-8):

Horizon Middle School	323-4550	Dr. Tabby Rabenberg	500 Ash Coulee Dr.
Simle Middle School	323-4600	Russ Riehl	1218 Simle Dr.
Wachter Middle School	323-4650	Lee Ziegler	1107 S. 7th St.

Senior High Schools (9-12):

Bismarck High School	323-4800	David Wisthoff	800 N. 8th St.
Century High School	323-4900	Steve Madler	1000 Century Ave.
Legacy High School	323-4850	Tom Schmidt	3400 E. Calgary Ave.
South Central High	323-4520	Joe Kalvoda	406 S. Anderson St.
Adult Learning Center	323-4530	Dale Hoerauf	1200 College Dr.
Bismarck Technical Center	323-4340	Dale Hoerauf	1200 College Dr.
Career Academy	323-4340	Dale Hoerauf	1221 College Dr.
Life Education	323-4003	Danica Nelson	806 N. Washington St.

This map is produced by Bismarck Public Schools, Community Relations Dept., 806 N. Washington Street, Bismarck, ND 58501, 701-323-4091, fax 701-323-4001, or send inquiries to community_relations@bismarckschools.org.

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