

Beloit Memorial High School
1225 Fourth Street
Beloit, Wisconsin 53511
(608) – 361-3000
www.sdb.k12.wi.us/memorial/

Beloit Memorial High School Knight Guide

Welcome to Beloit Memorial High School. This **Knight Guide** is to help you adjust and feel comfortable at Beloit Memorial High School. It is our desire that Beloit Memorial High School be a wonderful educational experience for you!



Administrators

Our administrators are here to direct and administer the high school program by working with you and your parents to provide you the best possible education. Please feel free to contact them at any time to set up an appointment call 361-3000.



General Information

How will I learn about the high school?

Because the high school can seem big with many new faces, the Link Crew program has been instituted to help freshmen feel more comfortable. Each freshmen student will be assigned to a Link Leader, who is a junior or a senior at BMHS. Link Leaders will help orient the freshmen at the start of the school year and will stay in continued contact with the freshmen throughout the year.



Daily Schedule

BMHS operates on a 5-block schedule, which consists of 4 terms per year with three 80 minute classes, a 40 minute lunch period, one 40 minute class or intervention period and either one 85 minute class or two 40 minute classes. The schedule is as follows:

Block 1	8:00 am	9:26 am
Block 2	9:32 am	10:56 am
Block 3	11:02 am	12:27 pm
Skinny A	11:02 am	11:42 am
Skinny B	11:47 am	12:27 pm
Block 4	12:34 pm	2:00 pm
Skinny C	12:34 pm	1:14 pm
Skinny D	1:19 pm	2:00 pm
Block 5	2:06 pm	3:29 pm

Lunches:

10th–12th Grade Students will eat lunch during
Skinny A (11:02-11:42 am)
9th Grade Students will eat a “Closed Campus” lunch
during Skinny C (12:34-1:14 pm)

Who I be in classes with?

In most cases your required classes will be classmates of the same grade. However, most elective classes are mixed.

What class choices am I able to take?

Every winter students choose from a wide variety of courses including Orchestra, Band, Choir, Theatre, Visual Arts, Ceramics, Sculpture and Painting. BMHS offers Foreign Language classes in Spanish, and French. JROTC is available to all students as an elective. Other courses are offered in the areas of Auto Servicing, Business and Marketing Coop, Child Care Services, Advanced Technology, Graphic Design and Computerized Drafting. Seniors also have the opportunity to take classes during the school day at Blackhawk Technical College, UW-Rock County and/or Beloit College. The Porter Scholars program at Beloit College offers selected seniors a chance to take one class per semester free of charge.

What Advance Placement courses are offered?

BMHS offers Advanced Placement courses in English Lang & Comp, English Lit & Comp, US Government, US History, World History Psychology, European History, Human Geography, Physics 1 & 2, Biology, Environmental Science Chemistry, AB & BC Calculus Statistics, Computer Science A, 2D and 3D Art, Art History, Drawing, Music Theory, Spanish, and French.

How do I find out about events and other information?

We will keep you informed through daily announcements, newsletters, Channel 96, our web site: www.sdb.k12.wi.us/memorial and other home mailings.

PLEASE NOTE: The BMHS Bi-monthly newsletter is distributed electronically. You have the opportunity to sign up for our newsletter at our website to be emailed directly to you.

Go to www.sdb.k12.wi.us/memorial and click on Newsletters. Click on the tab

Join Our Mailing List!

Do I have to wear an ID?

ID's are to be carried on your person at all times. Your ID is used to scan for your lunch, check out library books and get you into special school events. If you lose your ID, you must order a new ID. The cost for replacement ID is \$5.00.

Should I get involved in extra-curricular activities and sports?

Yes! The activities you can choose from are numerous! Being involved in extra-curricular activities and sports not only gives you a chance to meet other BMHS students who share your interests, but can be helpful when applying for jobs, colleges, and scholarships.

TO REPORT AN ABSENCE:

Call 361—3405 or email
memorialattendance@sdb.k12.wi.us

LEAVE YOUR STUDENT'S NAME,
DATE OF ABSENCE, REASON FOR ABSENCE AND A
PHONE NUMBER TO CONTACT
YOU WITH QUESTIONS.

What sports are offered?

Students may choose from 22 Varsity sports, including Football, Boys & Girls Soccer, Boys & Girls Cross-country, Boys & Girls Volleyball, Boys & Girls Golf, Boys & Girls Swim, Boys & Girls Tennis, Boys & Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Boys & Girls Hockey, Boys Baseball, Girls Softball, and Boys & Girls Track.

Can I receive balloons/flowers at school?

Students are not to have balloons or flower bouquets in the classroom to avoid distraction from the learning environment. If such items are delivered, they will remain in the office until the student is leaving school.

What student club/organizations are available at BMHS?

BMHS has many opportunities for students to get involved with clubs & organizations to excel outside the classroom. These include: Band, Orchestra, Choir, Jazz Band, Student Senate, Forensics, Leos, Key Club, Environmental Club, Knowledge Masters, Theatre, Minority Excellence Organization, Latino Club, National Honor Society, Increscent Newspaper, Link Crew, DECA, FBLA, JROTC Drill & Rifle Teams, French Club, International Club and many more.

Who can I talk with if I have problems?

Your teachers are the best choice to discuss class concerns. There are also 4 counselors and 6 administrators. The school psychologist can provide evaluation and consultation with youth, parents, teachers, administrators and community. The social worker assists families as liaison between home, school, and

community. Link Leaders are also great people to talk to when you have questions.

If I drive to school, can I park in the parking lot?

Only those students who have applied for, qualify, and receive a parking permit are eligible to park in the student lot. All cars in the lot must have a parking permit. Cars parked in the lot without a permit are ticketed by the City of Beloit.

What if I need to call home?

There is a student phone located in Academic Affairs.

What if my parent/guardian needs to get a message to me?

Students will not be pulled from class to take a phone call. A message will be taken and given to the student.

BMHS SPECIAL EVENTS PRIVILEGE-BASED ADMISSION POLICY

Includes, but not limited to: Homecoming, Prom & Other School Events:

- You must present your student ID to gain admission.
- Students who have 5 or more unexcused absences in the semester of the event will not be permitted to attend.
- Excessive tardies may lead to truant status and subsequent revocation of attendance privileges.
- Students who have been suspended out of school within 30 school days prior to the event will not be permitted to attend.
- A signed contract for dances must be approved prior to purchasing dance tickets.

PROM: In addition to the above requirements, the following also apply to Prom:

- All student fees and obligations must be cleared with the bookkeeper prior to purchasing tickets.
- All tickets are numbered and sold to specific individuals with a signed contract.
- **NO REFUNDS** will be given for any reason including students who do not show up for any reason (including suspension from school) or are not allowed to enter due to improper behavior, dress code violation, or use/possession of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.

Can I use electronic devices in school?

Cell Phones **MUST** be both silenced and **PUT AWAY** during instructional time. The use of communication features on cellular devices during instructional time is prohibited. Each teacher has the right to follow the use of mobile devices (e.g. cell phones, laptops, ipods and personal data assistants) during class **for instructional purposes.** The non-disruptive use of cell phone texting and iPod use in the hallway before/after school, during passing periods and lunch periods is permissible. In an emergency situation, teachers can give a student permission to make a call from a cell phone. The use of camera phones is strictly forbidden by law in private areas, such as, locker rooms, washrooms, dressing areas. Such use may also be in violation of the criminal code. A device brought to school is the sole responsibility of the student. BMHS is not responsible for the loss, theft, or misplacement of any electronic device.

Knight Spot Privileges (Freshmen after Term 1 with a 3.75 GPA or above)

With the 5-block schedule in place, students have the opportunity to use the Knight Spot. The student lounge is available at various supervised times during the school day. The student lounge will be accessible by using a student issued Key Card which can be electronically turned on or off. The criteria for having the opportunity to access the student lounge is as follows:

- Students must have a 3.00 current term GPA
- Students can have no more than 5 unexcused absences during the semester
- Student can have no school suspensions
- Students can have no #200 or #300 code of conduct violations and no more than one #100 level school code violations in a term

A student can be cleared each term to earn student lounge privileges. However, any of the above requirements will cancel their access to the student lounge anytime throughout the school year.



Attendance

When classes are in session, **ALL students** are expected to be in their assigned classroom. Students are not to leave the room unless given a pass from the teacher.

What do I do if I am absent from school?

All Absences require a written verification from the parent or legal guardian. The note should state the date(s) of absence, the reason, a parent/guardian signature and a phone number. Before school, between classes and at lunch excuses should be taken to Academic Affairs. You have 2 days after you absence to turn in your excuse, otherwise it stays unexcused.

What do I do if I am absent for several days?

Classroom work can be requested through the Counseling Office at 361-3029. When you return please talk with your teacher about missed work. You will be responsible to make up any work missed.

Verified excuses vs. excused absences, what is the difference?

By school board policy a parent can excuse their student ten (10) times per school year. All absences after 10 will be considered unexcused. (431 RULE 1 dc). Parent/guardians please use excused absences sparingly as you have only 10. Verified excuses are ones signed by the doctor, dentists, legal firm, etc and returned to school. There is no limit on verified excuses. It should be noted though, as in any business, the more you miss the more difficult it is to keep up and learn.

What are the consequences of not attending class?

The rule is – don't skip class. With our Block Schedule, every class period missed means you miss covered topics in great depth which puts you further behind. Part of or all five (5)

different days unexcused can result in loss of credit, and if continued could result in fines up to \$1,000 per school year.

What if I need to leave school early for an appointment?

Verification in writing or by phone is required by your parent/guardian to be excused for doctor/dental, etc. appointments. Students will only be released to parents/guardians or others who have been designated in writing by the parent or legal guardian. Remember to get the appointment verified (signed by the receptionist, nurse, doctor, etc.) and return it to Academic Affairs.

What if I am late to class?

Tardiness will be defined as any student who arrives within 15 minutes after the starting bell for each class. Anything over 15 minutes will be considered an absence. Students with a pass will receive no penalty. Students without a pass will be assigned a consequence.

What if I get sick during school?

If during the school day you are not feeling well and feel you need to go home, you will need to go to the Nurse's Office, located in the Counseling Office, to be excused to leave. The nurse will call your parent/guardian or others authorized on your Emergency Card to inform them of your situation. **IF YOU DO NOT HAVE AN EMERGENCY CARD ON FILE, YOU WILL NOT BE EXCUSED TO GO HOME** with anyone except your parent/guardian. An absence excuse will also be required when you return.

Can the nurse give me Tylenol, Aspirin, Cough Drops, etc if I am not feeling well?

The nurse cannot give you any over the counter medication. However, there is a form your parent/guardian can complete to be kept on file in the Nurse's office to allow you to take over the counter medication. Your parent/guardian must provide the medication.

What can the school nurse do?

The nurse is limited in treatments she can provide. She can treat cuts, burns, sprains, etc. She does not provide crutches, splints, wheelchairs or air casts.

Can I use the elevator?

No. The elevator is only for students with physical needs or for those with a physician's request. The school nurse, located in the Guidance Office, will issue you a pass to use the elevator if the need arises.



Appointments

Due to of the number of students, appointments are needed if you would like to see your principal or guidance counselor. Appointments guarantee your time slot!



Counseling Office

All of the BMHS counselors and the School Nurse are located in the Guidance Office. The counselors are here to help you make good choices in your educational career and to better prepare you for your future. In order to see your counselor, you must make an appointment with them in the Counseling Office. Each Counselor oversees a section of students based on their last name.

How many classes or credits do I need each year to graduate?

You will need to take at least 8 credits and have the opportunity to take up to 9 credits per year. You must pass 26 credits listed below in order to graduate. An appointment with your counselor each year will inform you where you are with your credits.

What are the Graduation Requirements?

A total of 26 Credits are required to graduate from BMHS as follows:

English	4 Credits
Math	3 Credits
Science	3 Credits
Social Studies	3 Credits
Physical Ed	1.5 Credits
Health	.5 Credits
Personal Finance	.5 Credits
(beginning class 2019)	
Electives	10.5 Credits

How important is my Grade Point Average (GPA)?

You will find your GPA on your report cards. Your GPA affects your rank in your class and determines your eligibility to take advance classes, participate in extra-curricular activities (such as sports) and continuing education after high school. It is also important if you want to receive academic scholarships your senior year.

How can I get help with College and Scholarships?

BMHS has many colleges, university, and technical school representatives visit throughout the school year that you may talk with. Your counselor can also assist you with finding the college of your choice.

How do I get into the National Honor Society?

Election times during your Junior and Senior year in the Fall is based on your cumulative GPA, your extra-curricular, and community involvement. If you want to be part of NHS, start planning and working toward this goal during your freshman year.

If I am in danger of failing a class what do I do?

The minute need help in a particular class, you should see your teacher for help. Your counselor can also arrange tutoring. If you do end up failing a class that is a required credit

to graduate, you should plan on taking it next year, summer school or Knight School.

What if after choosing my schedule I want to change a class?

The rule is "You picked it, you keep it". However, if there is a computer error or you don't meet a prerequisite, you need to see your counselor before the first day of the class. Once you begin the class, it is your responsibility to carry it on to completion.



Lockers

Will I have to share a locker?

The answer to this is NO and we insist that you do not share your locker or combination with anyone. Sharing lockers results in loss and theft of your things. Since sharing a locker is prohibited, if you are caught doing so, discipline for insubordination will result. The locker assigned to you is yours to store your items and decorate. Please use magnets and not stickers or tape.

Are locks provided?

The locks are built into the hall lockers at BMHS. You will be issued the same locker for the length of your stay at BMHS. The combination will not change until after you leave. If you are in a PE class or athletic activity, you must purchase a lock from the school only for that locker.



Lunch

When do I get lunch and for how long?

Grades 10-12 have lunch during Skinny A. Freshmen have a "closed campus" lunch during Skinny C. You have 40 minutes for lunch until the bell rings for your next class to begin.

What are my choices for lunch?

BMHS has a regular lunch line along with other specialty food lines, like pizza! The school store is also open during the lunch periods. 10th-12th graders have the option to leave campus for lunch..

Do I need to buy a lunch ticket?

Your school ID card is scanned for your lunch. This is done before school starts in the cafeteria

Should I apply for Free or Reduced lunch?

YES! Even if you do not think you will qualify or eat in the BMHS cafeteria, you should still fill out an application. If you qualify your ID is scanned for your lunch – you eat lunch just like every other student and no one will know if you are receiving your lunch free or at a reduced price.



Transportation

What about school and city bus transportation?

The district does not offer school bus transportation. City bus routes are available with discounted student passes.



Work Permits

How to I obtain a work permit?

Work permits are available and mandatory for students under the age of 18 who are employed in the state of Wisconsin. Applications for Work Permits are available in the Counseling Office B107 at BMHS.

Please refer to the District's 2015-2016 **FAMILY HANDBOOK** for more information regarding code of conduct policies, dress code, fees, lunch program, attendance and transportation.