

SPRING 2026 PRINCIPAL UPDATE



Dear Mountaineer Community,

As we enter the month of May, we are approaching one of the most exciting and important times of the school year. This is a period filled with celebrations, assessments, and opportunities for our students to demonstrate their growth and accomplishments. I would like to take a moment to highlight several important updates, events, and reminders for our school community.



END-OF-YEAR INFORMATION & IMPORTANT DATES

We have created a comprehensive document outlining key end-of-year dates, including the 8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony, Graduation, Regents Exams, and final school schedules.

Please review the full document here: [BMHS EOY Important Dates & Events](#)



STATE ASSESSMENTS

This week, students in Grades 6–8 will be participating in the New York State Math Assessments, with the Grade 8 Science Assessment scheduled for May 7th. We are proud of the hard work our students and staff have demonstrated throughout the year and encourage all students to put forth their best effort.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Daily attendance remains one of the strongest predictors of student success—academically, socially, and emotionally. Our Attendance Committee, composed of teachers, counselors, and administrators, meets regularly to review data, connect with families, and identify barriers to consistent attendance. Together, we are committed to supporting students and ensuring they remain engaged in their learning.

[BCSD SMITH WALK-A-THON,](#)
[COED COMMUNITY SOFTBALL GAME &](#)
[BCSD FAMILY WELLNESS FAIR 5/16](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL END-OF-YEAR SCHEDULE – PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY

As we approach the end of the school year, we want to ensure that all families are aware of important schedule changes for our middle school students (Grades 6–8).

The final weeks of school include a combination of full days, half days, and days with no student attendance, which differ by grade level. These adjustments are tied to state testing, Regents exams, and end-of-year activities.

We strongly encourage all families to carefully review the full schedule using the link below, as it provides detailed information to help you plan accordingly:

BMHS End-of-Year Important Dates & Events

[Middle School End-of-Year School Schedule](#)

Clear understanding of this schedule is essential to ensure:

- Students are present on required instructional days
- Families can plan for early dismissals and transportation
- There is no confusion regarding days when students are not in session

Thank you for your attention to this important information and for your continued partnership as we close out a successful school year.

JUNE 9 – REGENTS DAY (IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION)

On Monday, June 9th, we will administer the NYS ELA Regents Exam beginning at 8:15 a.m.

- Grades 7–12: No regular classes will be in session
- Grades 7–12: Targeted Academic Support Day (see below)
- Grade 6: Full day of school

Although we are a Grades 6–12 building, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) classifies:

- Grades 7–12 as “secondary”
- Grade 6 as “elementary”

This distinction is important because NYSED applies different attendance and instructional time requirements:

- Secondary (Grades 7–12): Attendance is based on scheduled instructional periods and Regents exam structures
- Elementary (Grades K–6): Attendance is based on full instructional days, with stricter minimum hour requirements
- As a result, Grade 6 must attend a full day of school on June 9th to remain in compliance with NYSED regulations.

[BMHS SPRING CONCERTS SAVE THE DATES AND CONCESSION SIGN UP](#)

BMHS Spring Concert
Save the Dates

Berlin Middle School Concert
May 12th, 6:00 pm
BMHS Auditorium

Berlin High School Concert
May 13th, 6:00 pm
BMHS Auditorium

Berlin Performing Arts
Booster Club
Concessions open at
5:30 pm! Sign up to
donate or volunteer by
scanning the QR code!

Berlin
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

REGENTS EXAMS & SCHEDULE NOTES

The ELA and Algebra II Regents Exams are scheduled earlier than other Regents exams this year. This adjustment reflects NYSED's transition to updated exam formats and administration practices, allowing for more timely scoring and improved alignment with instructional programming.

- ELA Regents: June 9 at 8:15 a.m.
- Algebra II Regents: June 10 at 8:15 a.m. at Stephentown Fire Hall
- Transportation will be provided to and from the Fire Hall.

Please refer to the full Regents schedule in the link below for additional details.

[June 2026 Regents Schedule](#)

NEW ACADEMIC SUPPORT OPPORTUNITY (JUNE 9TH)

We are excited to introduce a Targeted Academic Support Day for selected students who are:

- At risk of failing a course, and/or
- Preparing for upcoming Regents exams

Teachers will identify students who would benefit from:

- Very small group instruction, or
- One-on-one tutoring

This time will be used to:

- Make up missing work
- Strengthen understanding of key concepts
- Prepare for Regents success

Additional details will be shared in the coming weeks.

UNIFIED BASKETBALL – A POINT OF PRIDE

We are incredibly proud of our Unified Sports program, which brings together students with and without disabilities to compete on the same team. Unified Sports promotes inclusion, teamwork, sportsmanship, and school pride, while building meaningful connections among our students.

Our outstanding scholar-athletes have already competed in Bocce and Bowling this year, and we are excited to now be in the midst of our Unified Basketball season.

We recently played our first game against Cohoes High School, and our team continues to represent Berlin with pride. Our athletes in Grades 7-12 demonstrate what it truly means to be a Mountaineer.

- Home games are held at Berlin Elementary School (BES)
- All games begin at 4:15 p.m.

We strongly encourage our community to come out and support these extraordinary student-athletes.

Upcoming Games:

- 4/28 – @ Tamarac High School
- 4/30 – Home vs. Lansingburgh High School
- 5/4 – Home vs. Stillwater High School
- 5/5 – @ Hoosick Falls High School
- 5/7 – Home vs. Troy High School
- 5/11 – @ Mechanicville High School

Let's pack the stands and show our Mountaineer pride!



MOCK ACCIDENT EVENT – PROM SAFETY AWARENESS

Friday, May 30th at 9:00 a.m.

Berlin Middle High School will host a realistic mock accident simulation for juniors and seniors. This impactful event is designed to raise awareness about the serious consequences of impaired and distracted driving, particularly with prom scheduled that evening.

The simulation will include:

- Student actors portraying victims with realistic injuries
- Firefighters, EMTs, and law enforcement responding as they would in a real emergency
- Emergency vehicles and a helicopter fly-in simulating critical response

Following the demonstration, students will participate in a structured debriefing that includes:

- Presentations from first responders
- A victim impact statement

This event is a collaborative effort with:

- Rensselaer County Sheriff's Office
- District Attorney Mary Pat Donnelly
- New York State Police
- Berlin & Stephentown Fire Departments
- Rensselaer County Stop DWI
- Taconic Valley Ambulance

We recognize that this may be an intense experience.

Students may opt out if they feel uncomfortable.

A full itinerary will be shared prior to the event.



BERLIN'S GOT TALENT UPDATE!!!

CALLING ALL ACTS!
AUDITIONS STILL OPEN!
Berlin's Got Talent is looking for MORE ACTS!
Please contact Mrs. Gould or Mrs. Modesitt to AUDITION!!

PERFORMANCE NIGHT: JUNE 5TH AT 6PM
 Berlin Middle High School Auditorium

QUESTIONS?
 JGOULD@BERLINCENTRAL.ORG
 JMODESITT@BERLINCENTRAL.ORG

CLOSING

May represents both the culmination of a year's worth of hard work and the beginning of meaningful celebrations. From assessments to athletics, and from safety awareness to milestone events, we remain focused on supporting every student.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of Berlin Middle High School.

Warm regards,

Dave

Thursday, June 4th
 @ BERLIN MSHS
 DOORS OPEN AT 4:30 - EXHIBIT CLOSES AT 7:30 PM

Grades 6-12 Student Art Exhibit
 ARTWORK ON DISPLAY

National Art Honor Society (NAHS) Induction & Awards Ceremony
 CEREMONY BEGINS AT 6:00 PM

Empty Bowls Fundraiser for Local Food Pantries
 STUDENT-MADE CERAMIC BOWLS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE \$15

FREE Kids' Art Activities & Face Painting!

"Burgers.N" Dogs" Dinner Available for Purchase Provided by Student Council
 5:00 - 7:30 PM

Student Photography & Printmaking Raffles, Specialty Choral & Instrumental Performances...and more!

FREE Admission & Complimentary Dessert Provided for All Artists & Guests!

ARTS ALIVE!