

WELCOME, MOUNTAINEERS

Your Middle School Journey Begins

Sixth Grade Orientation

AUGUST 25, 2026

BERLIN MIDDLE HIGH SCHOOL



Meet Your School Leadership

Mr. David Bernsley

Principal

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(518) 658-1500 x1005

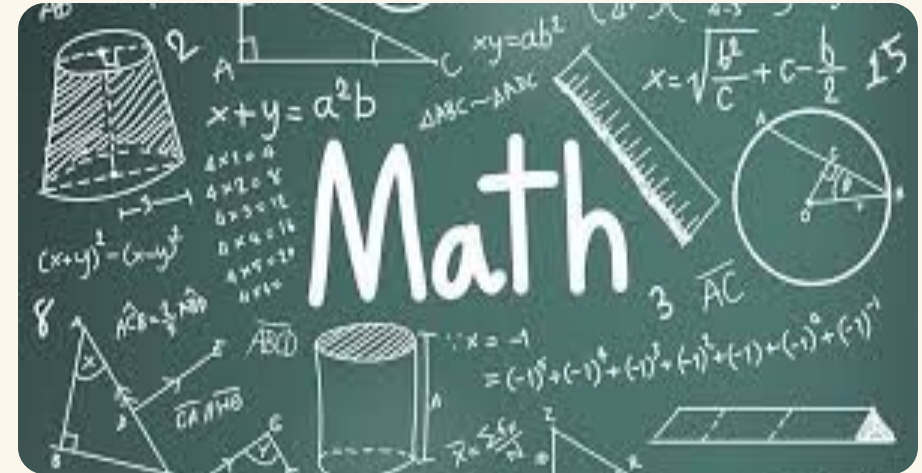
Mrs. Meghan Reynolds

Assistant Principal / Athletic Director

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Your Sixth Grade Dream Team

Mrs. Elisa Hammersmith

Mrs. Hunt

Social Studies and FACS

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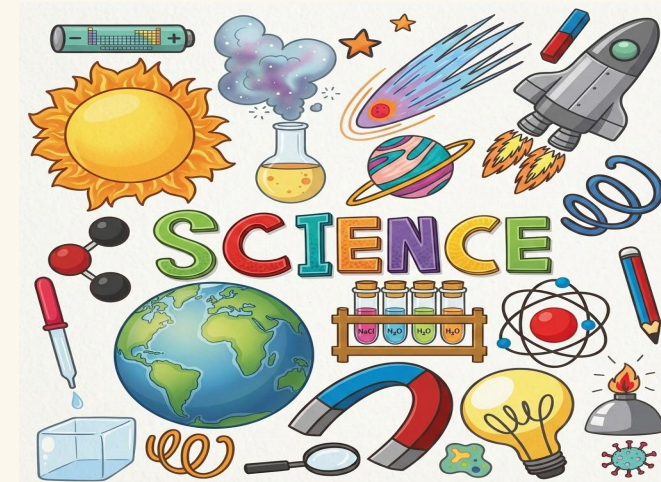
Mr. Brendan Scannell

Mr. Nick Toole

Science

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Your Sixth Grade Support Team

Mrs. Donna Kelly

Ms. Laura Masterson

Special Education

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Ms. Elaina Heidinger

Ms. Savanna Caldwell

School Counselors

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Title I Helps Us Support Every Mountaineer

Title I provides federal funding that helps schools give every student access to a high-quality education.

Extra Support

Federal funding for academic help, resources, and family programs.

Equal Opportunity

Every child deserves the chance to succeed, regardless of background.

Stronger Schools

Resources are invested directly in students, programs, and families.

Why Berlin CSD Receives Title I Support

Funding is based on the percentage of families who qualify for federal assistance. This gives Berlin CSD added support to invest in growth and equity.

Benefits for Students & Families

- Family workshops and events
- Stronger communication and input
- Equity and access for all students

Benefits for Our Community

- Programs that build community pride
- Academic help and resources
- Meaningful family partnerships

A large group of students and staff are posed on bleachers outdoors. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The text is positioned on the left side of the image.

OUR COMMITMENT

Together We Rise

Title I is more than funding—it is our commitment to every Mountaineer. We pledge to use resources wisely, partner with families, and ensure success for all.

When our students rise, our community rises.

Internet-Enabled Devices: What Families Need to Know

N.Y. Education Law § 2803 • Effective September 1, 2025

The law requires each school district, charter school, and board of cooperative educational services to adopt a written policy prohibiting student use of internet-enabled devices during the school day anywhere on school grounds.

Internet-enabled devices include smartphones, tablets, smartwatches, and other devices that connect to the internet or provide access to online content, including social media.

Staying Connected During the School Day

Contacting Your Student

Parents and guardians may call the BMHS main office when they need to contact a student.

**Berlin Middle High School
(518) 658-1500**

Students may come to the main office to call a parent or guardian during the school day.

Device Storage

Students must store internet-enabled devices in their designated district-provided lockers.

Each student is assigned a locker and a lock.

Devices must be turned off and remain inaccessible throughout the school day.

The School Day Starts at 7:10 a.m.

7:10

A.M.

- All students may enter the building beginning at 7:10 a.m.
- Buses will be released at 7:10 a.m.
- Students dropped off by parents or guardians may enter at 7:10 a.m.
- For safety and supervision, students may not enter before 7:10 a.m.

Know Where to Go Each Morning

After entering the building, report directly to your assigned area:

Eating Breakfast

Go directly to the cafeteria.

Grades 6–8

Report to the auditorium.

Grades 9–12

Report to the gymnasium.

What Makes Berlin Middle High Special?

Supportive Environment

Staff and counselors provide academic and emotional support so students feel safe and valued.

Strong Community Involvement

Families and community members are active partners in student success.

Diverse Academic Programs

We update our curriculum guide to respond to students' interests and needs.

Extracurricular Opportunities

Clubs, athletics, and organizations build engagement, leadership, and teamwork.

More Ways to Learn, Create, and Belong

Technology That Supports Learning

Advanced classroom technology enhances learning and engagement while preparing students for the 21st century.

A Strong Focus on the Arts

Music, art, and visual arts programs give students meaningful ways to express their creativity.

Explore your interests. Discover your strengths. Find your place.

Middle School Is a Time to Grow

Transition & Growth

A critical time for personal and academic development as students move from elementary school toward high school.

Explore Interests

New subjects and extracurricular opportunities help students discover individual passions.

Build Relationships

Connections with peers and teachers create a strong sense of community.

Three Habits for a Strong Start

1 Be Prepared

Bring the supplies you need, including notebooks and pencils.

Keep track of your schedule and assignments.

2 Stay Organized

Use a planner for homework and projects.

Keep your backpack and locker tidy.

3 Participate

Engage in class discussions and activities.

Join clubs and extracurricular activities.

How Families Can Support the Transition

Growing Independence

Students will take more responsibility for learning. Encourage them to manage schedules and homework.

Communication with Teachers

Expect newsletters, emails, and opportunities for parent-teacher conferences.

Academic Growth

Tutoring and homework-help resources are available. A positive learning environment at home matters.

School Involvement

Families can volunteer, join committees, and attend school functions that strengthen our community.

Support the Whole Middle Schooler

Social & Emotional Development

Middle school students are learning to navigate friendships and peer relationships. Families and school staff can work together when social challenges arise.

Embracing the Transition

Understand that curriculum and expectations will change. Encourage your child to welcome new experiences and challenges with confidence.

A Day at Berlin Middle High School

Period	Start	End	Length
Homeroom	7:20 a.m.	7:25 a.m.	5 min
1	7:25 a.m.	8:07 a.m.	42 min
2	8:10 a.m.	8:52 a.m.	42 min
3	8:55 a.m.	9:37 a.m.	42 min
4	9:40 a.m.	10:22 a.m.	42 min
5 • Grades 7–8 Lunch	10:25 a.m.	11:07 a.m.	42 min
6 • Grade 6 Lunch	11:10 a.m.	11:52 a.m.	42 min
7 • Grades 9–10 Lunch	11:55 a.m.	12:37 p.m.	42 min
8 • Grades 11–12 Lunch	12:40 p.m.	1:22 p.m.	42 min
9	1:25 p.m.	2:07 p.m.	42 min
Announcements / Dismissal	2:07 p.m.	2:13 p.m.	6 min

Let's Explore Your New School!

Tonight's tour stops

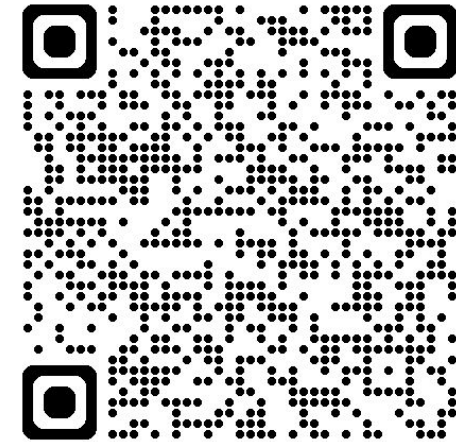
- Middle School
- Sixth Grade Wing
- Cafeteria — where sixth graders traditionally get “goofy”
- Sixth Grade Lunch: Period 6, 11:10–11:52 a.m.
- Music and Art Wing
- Gymnasium



What Questions Do You Have?

Scan the QR code to send a question to Mr. Bernsley.

You can submit your question now or return to the form later.



Questions for Mr. Bernsley

Let's Have a Great Year

Thank you for being here tonight.

We are here to support you and your child, and we welcome in-person conversations. Please reach out at any time with questions or concerns.

Your success and happiness are important to us.

MOUNTAINEER PRIDE