



Blacksburg High School  
201 W. Ramseur Drive  
Blacksburg, SC 29702

July 30, 2010  
Volume 14, Issue 1

## 'Cat Tracks: BHS Parent Newsletter

### Welcome back!

As principal of Blacksburg High School, I am looking forward to welcoming students and faculty back to school in August. Summer is a great time to relax, reflect, and gear up for another school year.

Our goal this year is to continue improving student achievement and for each student to reach his or her potential. We plan to continue our emphasis on literacy, implement an emphasis on numeracy, update our research curriculum, and further develop our senior project.

I look forward to welcoming everyone back to an exciting year at BHS.

*Jim Touchberry*  
Principal

### Changes are coming!

**Mrs. Molly S. Bridges** will be teaching Algebra I. She is a BHS alumnus and is coming to us from Dorman High School.

**Mrs. Brooke McAfee** will be teaching English II and English III. Mrs. McAfee hails from the Rock Hill/York area.

**Mr. David Roark** will be teaching statistics and Algebra II. He is a BHS alumnus and a former BHS teacher.

**Mrs. Tamara Davis** is changing locations. She is moving into the main office as our secretary from her former position as library secretary.

**Mrs. Ashley Jolly** joins BHS as our new athletic trainer. She is from Union, SC.

### Schedule pick-up: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

- ✓ Students in grades 10, 11, & 12 may pick up their class schedules in the main office on August 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM.
- ✓ Students should pay the \$20 activity fee when they pick up schedules or within the first three days of school.
- ✓ Any outstanding fees from previous years are to be paid when schedules are picked up.
- ✓ Only students who have completed the "Alive at 25" program will be allowed to purchase a parking permit.

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation

All 9<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents need to be present for **9<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation** on **August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM** in the **BHS auditorium**. Schedules are given out to 9<sup>th</sup> grades AFTER the mandatory assembly at 6 PM. Parents and students may tour the building and meet the teachers until 7 PM that evening.

Parents may sign up for a BHS *PowerSchool* login, pay lunch monies, pay the \$20 activity fee, order a yearbook, and join our PTO during orientation.

## Cars and parking at BHS

Student drivers are required by CCSD to complete *Alive at 25*, a safe driving program, before they are allowed to purchase required parking tags from office for campus parking. The *Alive at 25* program cost is \$35. Parking tags are to be displayed as instructed at time of purchase. Cars must be parked in designated spaces. Students are not allowed to sit in or visit cars or buses during the school day.

"Alive at 25" 2010-2011 Dates	
BHS	CTC
November 19	December 3
January 28	January 23
February 18	February 4
March 13	February 27
April 20	March 9
May 4	March 30
May 13	April 15
	April 27
	May 8
	May 20

## WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Ours is that Herff-Jones is our new yearbook publisher!

### Please note the change in how students purchase yearbooks this year.

- ✓ Yearbooks will be sold online at Herff-Jones or directly at BHS. There is no mail-in bill program this year.
- ✓ The price of the yearbook increases \$10.00 after December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ Students may have their names imprinted and/or select icons to be printed on the covers; this is solely at the discretion of the student and parent.
- ✓ We suggest having your name imprinted for security.

The number of yearbooks ordered is based on pre-sales. **If you do not pre-order, we cannot guarantee you a yearbook. Due to rising print costs, we are only ordering 10 extra books this year.** The price of the all-color, 9x12, 232-page yearbook is \$60.00, plus shipping and tax.

Only photos taken by the school photography company will be used for class photos, including seniors. We do not accept photos from other sources for publication in the yearbook. There is no charge for students to have photos taken for the yearbook by Lifetouch, our school photographer. All students are expected to have their pictures taken for the yearbook and for school IDs.

## How may we reach you?

**Address and Phone Numbers:** BHS sends multiple mailings and *Alert Now* messages to inform students and parents about pending deadlines and events during the year. We use the address and phone numbers on file to send these messages. If your contact information has changed, please let us know ASAP so we can assure that you will receive important information all year long.

## Cell phones: serious business

The CCSD cell phone policy is reprinted below:  
**Issued June 15, 2009, Revised June 10, 2010:**  
Visibility and/or use of a paging device or other audio/visual electronic device is prohibited during the regular school day, which includes class changes and lunch. Failure to obey this rule will result in: 1<sup>st</sup> offense: confiscation of device and return to parent/guardian upon request and 1 day of in-school suspension; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense: confiscation of device and return to parent/guardian upon request and 2 days of in-school suspension; 3<sup>rd</sup> offense: confiscation of device for 90 calendar days or end of the school year and 2 days of in-school suspension

## Cellular/digital phones

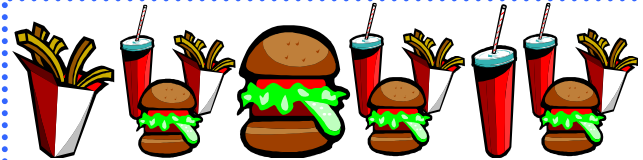
Visibility and/or use of a cellular/digital phone during the regular school day, which includes class changes and lunch is prohibited. Failure to obey this rule will result in: 1<sup>st</sup> offense: warning with confiscation of cellular/digital phone and return to parent/guardian upon request; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense and subsequent offenses: 1 day Out of School Suspension and confiscation of cellular/digital phone and return to parent/guardian at the end of the school year. Parent will sign for cellular/digital phone and policy will be reviewed with parent at 1<sup>st</sup> offense.

**NEW THIS YEAR: Blatant refusal to turn over a phone to an administrator will be considered a disturbing school issue and handled by law enforcement.**

## Money is an issue...

- ✓ BHS expects on-time payment for all debts owed to BHS (examples: activity fee, club dues, fundraiser monies, etc).
- ✓ Debts accrued in any grade owed by any student attending prom must be paid in full prior to purchasing a Prom ticket or the student will not be allowed to attend Prom unless arrangements have been made in the office for payment.
- ✓ Any debts owed by seniors not attending Prom must be paid in full by April 20, 2011, or arrangements made in the office for payment.
- ✓ In addition, all monies owed by students in any grade must be paid in full by April 20, 2011 or arrangements made in the office for payment.

## What's for lunch?



- ✓ The price for student lunch is \$2.25; breakfast is \$ .80; reduced lunch is \$ .40; reduced breakfast is \$ .30.
- ✓ Free and reduced price lunches are available by filling out the necessary form in the back of the BHS handbook and returning it for approval.
- ✓ All students are encouraged to complete this confidential form.
- ✓ Students are not to charge in the lunch room.
- ✓ Payment for lunches may be made on a daily basis or prepaid on a weekly or monthly basis. Parents may pay online at [www.mylunchmoney.com](http://www.mylunchmoney.com). This website allows parents to establish automatic payments and/or to receive free low-balance alerts via email.

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### **SIGN OUT POLICY ....**

*a letter from the principal to our parents*

Dear Parents:

For the safety and welfare of our students, Blacksburg High School will no longer allow students to sign out for lunch or for appointments during lunch unless a parent, guardian, or a parent-approved emergency contact signs the student out in person. This has caused numerous disruptions with students coming into the office during class time and making phone calls home to sign out. Although we are a small school and know many of the parents, we cannot identify parents just by talking to them on the phone. Due to liability associated with a student under our care being involved in an accident, we can no longer continue this practice. In the future, any student signing out for a doctor, dentist, or other appointment during lunch must bring an excuse from the doctor or dentist upon his/her return to school. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this manner. Again, the education, safety, and welfare of your children are the primary goals of the faculty and staff at Blacksburg High School.

Sincerely,

*Jim Touchberry*, principal

**Please note that  
the phone in the  
office is for  
emergency use  
only.**

