Buford Middle School’s Plan for Improvement

The Buford Middle School (BMS) Improvement Plan was developed by the BMS Leadership Team (comprised of teachers and other staff members), parent advisory groups, and school administrators. This plan outlines action steps used to achieve the goals set forth by all stakeholders. The BMS School Improvement Plan is available for review on the BMS website and in the BMS Parent Resource Center.

Goal: BMS will show a 3% increase on rigorous assessments in ELA and Science while maintaining growth on rigorous assessments in Math.

Additionally, all students at BMS will score as a Proficient Learner (Level 3) or Distinguished Learner (Level 4) in the knowledge and skills necessary at their grade level/course of learning on the Georgia Milestones EOG or EOC Assessment. Buford Middle School strives for an increase in students achieving at the Distinguished Learner category in all areas. Methods for achieving this goal include, but are not limited to, vertical teams, flex classes, frequent parent contacts, collaborative planning, writing across the curriculum, differentiated instruction, benchmark testing, increasing the number of students in advanced content courses, continuous data review, and using various forms of technology.
2017 & 2018 Georgia Milestones Results for Grades 6, 7, and 8

These scores show the percentage of students who achieved at the level of Proficient or Distinguished as compared to the State average.

### Iowa Assessment Results

The Iowa Assessment measures a student’s progress in key academic areas and allows for a comparison of their performance to that of students across the U.S. This nationally norm-referenced test is administered in grades 6 and 7 at Buford Middle School. Results from the fall administration help identify students’ areas of academic strength as well as areas that need improvement. Teachers use the fall results to inform instruction and monitor growth. The BMS student average percentile rank over the last five years is listed in the chart below. Fifty percent is the average national percentile rank (NPR). For example, a Core Composite NPR of 57 indicates that, on average, a student scored as well as or better than 57% of U.S. students on the test.
Georgia’s Performance Index as Measure of Progress

The College and Career Ready Performance Index (CCRPI) is Georgia’s annual tool for measuring how well its schools, districts, and the state itself are preparing students for the next educational level. It provides a comprehensive roadmap to help educators, parents, and community members promote college and career readiness for all students.

The CCRPI includes five main components: Achievement, Progress, Closing Gaps, Readiness, and Graduation Rate (high school only). These components, encompassing multiple indicators, are combined for a total CCRPI score on a scale of 0 to 100. The current CCRPI score is actually a reflection of the 2016-2017 school year. Buford Middle School’s rating indicates strong growth and achievement. The current BMS CCRPI score is 94, which is among the top scores in the state. The state CCRPI average for middle schools is 73.8.

Additionally, schools receive a School Climate Rating using data from student, parent, and school personnel surveys, along with student discipline, and attendance records for students and school personnel. Each school receives a 1-5 star rating, with five stars representing an excellent school climate, and one star representing a school climate most in need of improvement. Buford Middle School’s current School Climate Rating is five stars. For additional information regarding the CCRPI report or School Climate Rating, go to: ccrpi.gadoe.org.

### CCRPI Score

![Score Table]

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A Message from the Principal About Student Achievement and Academic Initiatives

The purpose of Buford Middle School is to Believe, Motivate, and Succeed. We believe in our students, we strive to motivate them, and we watch them succeed beyond all expectations! At BMS, we expect all students to learn and achieve at high levels, and for teachers to follow a rigorous and student-centered curriculum. The faculty and staff take pride in rising to the daily challenge of meeting the needs of each and every student. This helps ensure BMS meets the purpose of Buford City Schools, which is “to empower all students to become globally competitive critical thinkers, innovative problem solvers, responsible individuals, and productive citizens.”

Key expectations for staff are reviewed continually in order to maintain an academic focus. Staff pride and loyalty are evidenced not only by the low percentage of teacher turn over, but also by the high staff participation in continuing education activities and pursuit of advanced degrees.

Teachers, parents, and students consistently work together for student success. Friendly faces, engaging smiles, and a positive energy can be seen and felt every day! BMS is a perfect combination of high expectations, a caring environment, and a supportive community. This results in our students’ transformation into productive lifelong learners ready to use their unique skills and talents throughout life.
Other 2017-2018 Highlights...

- The 2019 Niche Report ranked BMS as the #1 “Best Public Middle School in Georgia” among 531 schools for the second year in a row. Additionally, it ranked BMS as having the #1 “Best Public Middle School Teachers in Georgia” among 520 schools. The current overall Niche Grade for Buford Middle School is an A+.

- Buford Middle School was recognized as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence during the 2017-2018 school year.

- The State Governor’s Office of Student Achievement recognized BMS as a Platinum Award winner in the 2017 Single Statewide Accountability System. This Award is in the area of greatest gains for exhibiting high growth in student achievement and was accomplished by being in the top 1% of schools in the state over the last 3 years.

- BMS has been recognized as a 2018 Highest performing Title I Reward School by the Georgia Department of Education.

- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) raised approximately $50,000 over the course of the year from events such as the BMS Color Run, Penny Race, and Spirit Wear Sales.

- BMS offered the anti-bullying program, “How Wolves Rise Up”, where students were provided the opportunity to talk about how to stop and overcome bullying, and how bystanders can stand up for others.

- Connections classes provide students a variety of career topics and assist with Career Pathways selection at the high school.

2017-2018 Staff Data

Staff Certification Level

- 20% of teachers with a Bachelor’s Degree
- 26% of teachers with a Master’s Degree
- 54% of teachers with an Educational Specialist
- 15 average years of experience

Buford Middle School

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Buford City Schools

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