

CARDINAL FLYER

MAY 12TH, 2023

CHANGES COMING FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL BUS RIDERS IN 2023-24

The Board of Education voted to discontinue Payrider services for middle and high school students, beginning with the 2023-24 school year. The change was approved at Monday night's board meeting. Services will continue for students residing 2.5 miles or further from home to school within their attendance area or who have transportation as part of their Individual Education Plan (IEP). The change does not impact Payrider services for elementary students. The difficult decision was made at the April board meeting after an administrative update on the state of transportation, followed by recommended changes for the board to consider. The shortage of bus drivers negatively impacts families who participate in the Payrider program and students the district is required by state law to transport. The report notes that throughout this spring, Durham School Services, the district's transportation provider is 12-18 drivers short daily. Hiring hasn't kept pace with driver attrition and absenteeism – an issue that is not unique to Blue Valley.

Impact of the driver shortage includes:

- Buses are late dropping off students for the start of school and late returning students home.
- Delayed arrival of students is a loss of instructional time, which negatively impacts the teaching and learning environment.
- Lack of drivers leads to early dismissal for after-school activities and loss of instructional time.
- Lack of drivers negatively impacts field trips.
- Increased staff workload to adjust, supervise or alternate plans due to late buses.
- Families are inconvenienced by the lack of predictability.

There were exhaustive efforts made this year to avoid further reduction of services to families who pay for transportation. Payrider services for middle and high school students were eliminated for families who lived under 1.5 miles from school. Additionally, school start time schedules were modified to allow more routes to be combined between grade levels.

These efforts, coupled with enhanced recruiting, wage increases and sign-on bonuses, helped temporarily stabilize student transportation. Unfortunately, the changes were not enough to close the gap between the number of requests for services and drivers required to run routes. Our community and surrounding area aren't providing Durham with enough qualified applicants to cover routes at the current service levels being offered.

Anticipated impact of 2023-24 Student Transportation recommendation:

- Improves services to students who the district is required by state law to transport. The State of Kansas requires that student transportation be provided for students residing 2.5 miles or further from home to school within their attendance area or have transportation as part of their Individual Education Plan (IEP).
- Further closes the labor gap by the elimination of 10 routes. Approximately 764 middle and high school students will no longer be eligible for Payrider services.
- Maintains the elementary Payrider program and balances the number of buses needed at the middle and high school levels to be equal to the elementary schools.

While the news gives many frustrated families hope for more bus service reliability, the district understands that many families will be disappointed they are no longer eligible for bus service. Making the decision today gives families time to plan for safe and reliable transportation next year.

Current middle and high school Payrider program families should expect a notification letter from Durham about service changes.

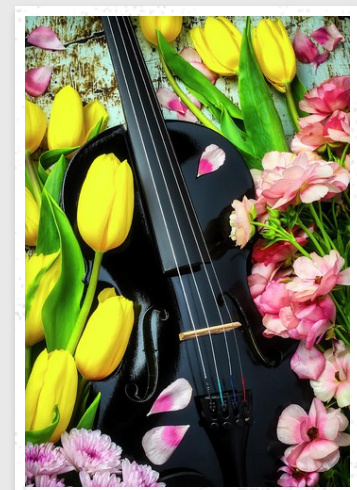
Kaci Brutto
Director of Communications
Blue Valley Schools

SPRING ORCHESTRA CONCERT (ALL GRADES)- MAY 17TH

Our Spring Orchestra Concert is coming up on Wednesday, May 17th! The 5th/6th grade concert is from 6:00-6:30 in the BVMS Gym, and students need to arrive at 5:45.

We will have a dessert social in the Courtyard from 6:30-7:00, and we are requesting each family bring 1 dozen single-serve desserts.

The 7th/8th grade concert is from 7:15-7:45 in the BVMS Gym. Students are encouraged to come for the 5th/6th grade concert and dessert social, but need to arrive by 7:00 at the latest.





DRAMA CLUB PICNIC- MAY 18TH

Spring Drama Club Picnic has been moved from May 12 to May 18 in the courtyard amphitheater from 3:30 - 4:30pm. All Drama Club members, student cast and crew members and parents are welcome to join us. During this event we will recognize our departing 8th grade participants.

TRACK & FIELD: END OF SEASON ANNOUNCEMENTS

Track Team-

Congratulations on a great Track and Field season!

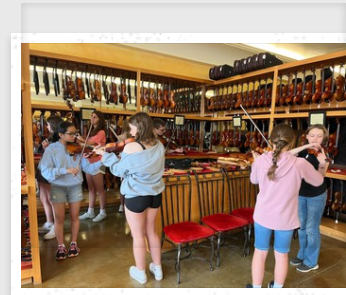
Here is the Sign-up Genius for the Popsicle Party. We are looking for a few volunteers and donations to buy popsicles.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BAAAF2EA1F9C07-track>



8TH GRADE STRINGS VISITS KC STRINGS

8th grade Strings had the opportunity to tour KC Strings Violin Shop this week! We got to hear from the owner, Anton Krutz, about how instruments are made, how playing a stringed instrument makes you smarter, and we got to play some different instruments!



CALLING ALL OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS AND BORROWED CHROMEBOOKS

WE HAVE ONLY 10 DAYS OF SCHOOL LEFT. IF YOU HAVE ANY OVERDUE BOOKS OR BORROWED CHROMEBOOKS PLEASE TURN THEM IN TO THE LIBRARY. ANY LIBRARY BOOKS OR

LOANER CHROMEBOOKS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN TURNED IN BY THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL WILL RESULT IN A BILL FOR THE AMOUNT OF THE ITEM.



23-24 SCHOOL SUPPLIES KITS NOW AVAILABLE!

PTO Supply Kit ordering is open now. The deadline to order is July 1.

Incoming 5th graders and current 6th and 7th graders can order kits for next year. Online ordering will close on July 1- no late orders will be accepted, no exceptions.

The link is www.firstdayschoolsupplies.com and enter zip 66085 to find BVM.

Questions can be sent to me, Jill Schutzler at schoolsupplies@bvmspto.org

Thank you.

BVMS PTO

JOCO PARKS & REC SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Check out what Johnson County Parks and Rec along with KC Parent have to showcase for kids this summer!

<https://jcprd.com/160/Camps>

<https://kcparent.com/camps/camp-guide/#page=1>

BLUE VALLEY HIGH SUMMER CAMPS NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION



SUMMER CAMPS

BLUE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

May 29 - Jun 2

Basketball—Boys & Girls
XC Runs

June 5-9

Basketball—Boys
XC Runs
Youth Baseball

June 12-16

Youth Baseball
Future Tiger Trng
Volleyball
Soccer
Tennis
XC Runs

June 19-23

Future Tiger Trng
XC Runs

June 26-Jun 30

Future Tiger Trng
Basketball—Boys
XC Runs

Jul 4 - Jul 7

**KSHSAA
Moratorium
No Activities**

Jul 10 - 14

Future Tiger Trng
XC Runs

Jul 17- 21

Basketball—Boys
Football
XC Runs

Jul 24- 28

Future Tiger Trng
XC Runs

Jul 31 - Aug 4

Future Tiger Trng
XC Runs

Aug 7-11

XC Runs
Orchestra Retreat

Details & Registration Information



<http://bitly.ws/D97f>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday May 15

All Grades Band Concert at 7p in Gym

Tuesday May 16

STUCO 3p-4p in Room 103

Wednesday May 17

8th Grade Spanish Finals

FCA 7a-7:50a in Room 102

Chess Club 3p-4p in Room 102

Diversity Council 3p-4p in Room 112

Yearbook Club 3p-4p in Library

Yoga Club 3:15p-4p in Room 108

All Grades Strings Concert in Gym:

- 5th & 6th Grade at 6p
- 7th & 8th Grade at 7p

Thursday May 18

8th Grade Spanish Finals

Anime & Gaming Club 3p-4:30p in Room 809

Drama Spring Semester Showcase 2p in Courtyard

Drama Spring Awards Picnic 3p in Courtyard

Friday May 19

8th Grade Band Field Trip to WOF 8a-6:30p



Summer Events Dates 2023.pdf

 [Download](#)

127.4 KB