

July 16, 2010

Dear Students and Parents,

I hope all of our Buford High School families have enjoyed a wonderful summer vacation and that you are ready to begin the 2010-2011 school year at BHS.

I am so excited about the upcoming year especially after the incredible year we had last year! We were named to *Newsweek's* America's Best High Schools list. *Newsweek* picks the best high schools in the country based on how hard school staffs work to CHALLENGE students with advanced placement college-level courses and tests. Just over 1600 schools were chosen—only six percent of all the public schools in the U.S. — and WE MADE THE LIST for the first time in Buford High School's history.

Our Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHS GT) scores were also the highest they have ever been (ESPECIALLY IN THE EXCEEDS category!!!!). We were in the top 8% in the state (all schools) in ALL GHS GT content areas. We were the top 1% in Science! We were number one in AA, no other school in AA was even close to our students' performance!

We had a phenomenal year in our athletic program. We won three different athletic state championships for a second year in a row! Our teams won the AA Softball State Championship, AA Football State Championship, and the AA Girls Basketball State Championship. We also had several other sports place very high in region and state competition.

Our Fine Arts program had an incredible year as well. The Literary team won the AA Literary State Championship for the second year in a row and our One Act Play team was the One Act Play Region Champion. Our Fine Arts program is one of the best Fine Arts program in AA.

Our summer preparations are almost complete. The faculty and staff are energized and ready to begin the journey. We invite all BHS students and parents to school on Thursday, July 29, to pick up schedules, purchase a locker, sign up for parking, pay class dues, pay AP Exam fees (\$85.00), purchase yearbooks, sign up for the Academic Booster Club, and visit the "Wolves Den" school store. Please see the below times for specified students to come to BHS:

8:30 – 8:45 AM	Honor Roll Seniors
8:45 – 9:45 AM	Seniors

9:45 – 10:00 AM	Honor Roll Juniors
10:00 – 11:00 AM	Juniors

12:00 – 12:15 PM	Honor Roll Sophomores
12:15 – 1:15 PM	Sophomores

1:15 – 2:15 PM Freshmen
2:15 – 3:15 PM “*Becoming Accustomed to High School Parent/Student Meeting*”

Please check the enclosed list of honor roll students to determine if your student is eligible for early pick up of his/her schedules, sign up for parking, and pick out a locker before the rest of his/her class.

The “Becoming Accustomed to High School Parent/Student Meeting” session for all incoming freshmen and their parents will be held in the auditorium. There will be time for questions following the orientation. It will be an opportunity for the freshmen to understand high school credits, high school routines, and the *do*’s and *don*’ts of high school.

Schedules may be picked up after ALL outstanding fees have been paid from the previous year(s). All students returning without outstanding debts may pick up their schedules according to the time slots listed above.

Locker fees for the 2010-2011 school year are \$15.00. Parking fees for the 2010-2011 school year are \$20.00. Students planning on parking at BHS for the 2010-2011 school year must have a valid driver’s license, student car tag number, student insurance card, and policy number to obtain a parking permit. A completed application with parent signature is required to obtain the parking permit. A copy of the parking application will be enclosed.

Lunch prices will be \$2.50 for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. Free and Reduced Forms are available in the main office.

Also, as a reminder, please work with your child on the summer reading assignments for Language Arts classes, Honors classes, and AP classes. These assignments and a tremendous amount of information can be found at our website at <http://www.bufordcityschools.org/bhs/home.html>.

Buford High School Open House is Tuesday, August 3 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you there. The first day of school is Thursday, August 5. Classes begin at 7:20 AM and end at 2:30 PM.

I give you my 100% commitment to ensure that we maximize each student’s educational potential and opportunities and we also continue to achieve Triple “A” Excellence – Excellence in Academics, Athletics, and in the Arts! The mission of Buford High School is to empower students to reach their full potential as lifelong learners and effective members of society by inspiring them to think, to achieve, and to care! We will continue to strive to reach this mission day in and day out at Buford High School. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 770-945-6768 or Banks.bitterman@bufordcityschools.org. Also, please remember that throughout the year, my door is always open to you.

We look forward to an incredible year with you and your child!

Dr. Banks Bitterman
Principal
Buford High School

“Excellence is our Standard!”

“It is not where you begin that matters; it is where you finish that makes all the difference!”