

July 27, 2022

Dear Bruno-Pyatt Community,

Welcome back to school!!! I am so excited to be back as your principal and to have kids back in our building soon. We just wanted to touch base with everyone so that we can make sure you have all of the information that you need to make your back to school experience positive. As always, if you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact us at the office and we'll do our best to assist you. Here are the important dates:

**August 9th:** Teachers are back to work this day. We will be doing professional development and work in our building and classrooms all day.

**Also on August 9th:** We are having a **HS parent night** in order to explain some of the options that your students can take advantage of this year ranging from alternative HS English writing classes to North Arkansas College programs in Harrison which are completely free where your student can learn a trade and have a certificate or program completion by the time they graduate.

**August 10th:** All District Staff will be at the Western Grove Campus for professional development and training. We will most likely be there all day.

**August 11th: OPEN HOUSE!!!** We have an awesome Open House planning for this year. We will have a **Back to School Splash Bash** with two different water slides and bouncing houses that are meant for students K-12. We will also have hot dogs, chips and I keep hearing there may be a Sno-Cone Machine as well. Please plan on coming to the Open House. We will be advertising it more on our Facebook page as the date gets closer. The times for the Open House will be from 4-8.

There will also be a **membership drive for our PTO** and we really encourage everyone to sign up. The cost to sign up is \$5.00. We know that times are tough, but this is an amazing deal. PTO is responsible for so many fun things during the year. They help fund field trips, student scholarships, club needs, and a lot of fun events like our Donkey Basketball game this past school year.

**\*\*\*ALSO ON AUGUST 11:** We will be offering sport physicals for all athletes going into grades 7-12 on August 11th at Boston Mountain Health Clinic in Marshall. We will be providing transportation.

You can pick up a form at any of our 3 campuses. All forms will need to be turned in by Tuesday, August 2nd.

**All athletes will need to have their physical by the first day of school if they are not able to attend on August 11th!!!!**

**August 16:** First Day of School! Please make sure that you are ready to roll by this date! We are going to hit the ground running! School starts by 7:46 AM.

### **New Faces on Campus:**

I want to welcome three new teachers and one new school resource officer to Bruno-Pyatt- Wendy Nelson, Tommy Hargis, Mark McGee and Alex Clover.

**Wendy Nelson-** Mrs. Nelson is not a new face around Bruno-Pyatt but I am excited to let you know that she will be picking up third and fourth grade reading for our students. Wendy has been an excellent paraprofessional for us and since she had gone back to school we are able to use her as a teacher for this critical grade level.

**Tommy Hargis:** Mr. Hargis has been working down for the Arch Ford Cooperative, teaching math and supporting ALE students. Tommy will be teaching on Bruno-Pyatt Campus as a full-time math teacher. Tommy is also an excellent musician and carpenter.

**Mark McGee:** Mr. McGee has been a coach and teacher over in Newport, AR. He and his family have relocated to our area. He is going to be our new ALE teacher. Mark is committed to working with all students and will provide excellent support for some of our students who need that.

**Alex Clover:** We have a new school resource officer. Officer Clover will be working on all three campuses and making sure that disruptions are kept to a minimum as well as doing everything we can to keep our schools safe and free from crime.

### **Other Areas:**

#### **Cell Phone Use:**

This summer the District conducted a survey of parents regarding their attitudes around cellphones in school. As you have seen on social media, some school districts are significantly cracking down on cell phone use in school. Ozark Mountain School District now has the following cellphone policy:

Cell phones must be powered off during the day. Students who violate the cell phone policy will face the following consequences:

1. First time: Phone Confiscated for the day
2. Second Time: Confiscated for the day and parents notified

3. Third Time: Parents must come to the school to pick up student phones
4. Fourth Time: Confiscated and Banned: Parental Conference

**Students in grades K-6 may have a cell phone but can only be used after school and must be turned off during instructional time.**

*Note: The confiscation of cell phones will result in the student's loss of privacy. For example, if a student has been bullying on their cell phone the phone may be examined by school administration or our school resource officer.*

*NOTE: If a student loses phone privileges at any level they must turn their phone into the office at the start of each school day. The student may pick up his/her phone at the end of each day.*

Please discuss this with your student and make sure that they understand that ongoing cell phone violations will result in them wasting your time as well as cell phone confiscation. If a student argues or is disrespectful over a situation involving their phone, other consequences may occur as well.

**Update Your Information:**

We want everyone to be in the know of everything that is going on at Bruno-Pyatt School. If your phone number has changed or if you need to add a number, please make sure to update the office so we can get it into our system. Also, if you haven't done so already, please sign up for REMIND.COM if you want to get our weekly updates. Call if you have any questions- 870-427-5227.

We can't wait to see everyone! We hope you all have a great rest of the summer.

Sincerely,

John C. McCleary  
Principal, Bruno-Pyatt School K-12  
Ozark Mountain School District  
jmcclary@omsd.k12.ar.us