



Welcome to Blue Heron!

Add the following numbers into your contact list:

- BHES Main Number- 240-566-0700
- BHES Health Room- 240-566-0707

Follow us on the following pages:

- Instagram- [fcps_bhes](#)
- X- formerly Twitter- [@fcpsblueheron](#)



Blue Heron Elementary

We provide services for the following ages:

- **Inclusive PreK-3**

- Class size is typically 14 students. 7 students with IEP services, and 7 without.
- Students are placed through the FCPS central office coordination with Child Find, Office of Special Education, and the Early Childhood Office.
- You may enroll your child through the Power School portal, contact will be made from the FCPS Early Childhood office.

- **Inclusive PreK-4**

- Class size is typically 14 students. 7 students with IEP services, and 7 without.
- Students are placed through the FCPS central office coordination with Child Find, Office of Special Education, and the Early Childhood Office.
- You may enroll your child through the Power School portal, contact will be made from the FCPS Early Childhood office.

- **Kindergarten**

- **1st-5th Grade**



Blue Heron Elementary

We provide services for the following ages:

- Kindergarten

- Your child must be 5 years old on or before September 1st of their Kindergarten year.
- Registration for Kindergarten begins in March and is continuous. (Please enroll early so that we can ensure we have appropriate staffing for Kindergarten)
 - March- enroll your child
 - May- attend our Kindergarten Round Up
 - July- have your child registered for one of our assessment days
 - August- Meet and Greet/ K teacher assignment shared (prior to school starting)
 - August- Back to School Night (prior to school starting)

- 1st-5th Grade



Blue Heron Elementary

We provide services for the following ages:

- 1st-5th Grade

- If you are new to FCPS, our registrar will ensure that all of your documents have been uploaded.
- The registrar will call you to schedule an assessment appointment.
- One of our literacy specialists will assess your child and make a teacher assignment recommendation.
- Our school counselor will meet with you and your child, give you a tour of our school, and then take you to meet the teacher.



Blue Heron Elementary

We provide services for the following ages:

- 1st-5th Grade

- If you are moving within FCPS, our registrar will ensure that all of your documents have been uploaded.
- One of our literacy specialists will review your child's progress and make a teacher assignment recommendation.
- Our school counselor will meet with you and your child, give you a tour of our school, and then take you to meet the teacher.



BHES Key Personnel

Staff	Title	Email
Administrative Secretary	Jessica Alban	jessica.alban@fcps.org
Registrar/Attendance Secretary	Theresa Wax	theresa.wax@fcps.org
School Counselor (1st & 5th Grade)	Tauna Kelly	tauna.kelly@fcps.org
School Counselor (Kindergarten & 3rd Grade)	Robin Tormo	robin.tormo@fcps.org
School Counselor (2nd and 4th Grade)	Cassidy Uscilowski	cassidy.uscilowski@fcps.org
School Nurse	Natalie Maguire	natalie.maguire@fcps.org
School Health Tech.	Lindsay Baumgardner	lindsay.baumgardner@fcps.org



Arrival @ BHES

Car Riders-

Unloading begins @ 8:45 am

- Turn into BHES parking lot, follow traffic pattern looping towards school.
 - Pull to one of the cones in front of the school.
 - Staff will open the door for your child
 - Please do not get out of your car as it impedes the car rider process. It is a kiss and go line.
 - We are a right turn only exit.
 - Car Rider line ends at 9:00 am
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- After 9:00 am, please park your car and walk your child to door.
 - Please do not drive to the school and let your child off in the road. This is a safety concern.



Arrival @ BHES

Eaglehead East Walkers-

- A crossing guard is on duty from 8:45-9:15 to safely cross your child to back entrance of the school.
- A staff member is stationed at the corner of Eaglehead Drive and the back parking lot to ensure your child makes it to school property safely.
- An additional staff member is stationed at the corner of the school to ensure that your child continues to walk into the building safely.

Eaglehead South Walkers-

- A crossing guard is on duty from 8:45-9:15 to safely cross your child to from the marquee sign to the sidewalk of BHES.
- A staff member is stationed at the center of sidewalk to ensure your child makes it to the building safely.
- An additional staff member is stationed at the hook of sidewalk to ensure that your child continues to walk into the building safely.



Arrival @ BHES

Bus Riders-

- Students arriving by bus are dropped off beginning at 8:45 in the back loop of the school.
- Staff is on duty and greeting students in the morning.



Breakfast @ BHES

Serving Times: 8:45-9:15

Cost: \$1.60

Menus can be found at this link:

- <https://www.fcpsnutrition.com/>
- You can prepay for meals using this link:
<https://lingconnect.com/>
- If you need meal assistance, you may use this link:
<https://lingconnect.com/>

Melinda Dobbie is our cafeteria manager. Her contact information is: melinda.dobbie@fcps.org



Arrival

- ★ Doors Open: 8:45 am
- ★ LIVE Morning Announcements: 9:11 am
- ★ Doors Close & Instruction begins: 9:15 am
- ★ Kiss and Go with confidence!
- ★ Student go directly to their classroom each day
- ★ Lockers for coats, lunches & backpacks



Instructional Schedule

Your child's teacher will share their daily schedule with you!

- ★ Students have Art, Music, PE 2X per week.
- ★ Students have Media - 1x per week
- ★ Students attend the STEM Lab - every other week



Tardy and Attendance Policy

★ Arriving after 9:15 am?

- ★ Please escort your child to the front door & ring the bell.

★ Absent?

- ★ State law requires a written excuse any time a scholar is absent; within two days of the absence.
- ★ Send an email to bhes.attendance@fcps.org
- ★ Include the scholar's first and last name, date of the absence, the reason for the absence, teacher name, and the signature of the parent/guardian.



Tardy and Attendance Policy

★ Leaving Early?

- ★ Report to the front door and ring the bell.
- ★ FYI: It may take several minutes for your child to pack up and be ready to leave.

Students will not be called to the office until the parent or guardian has arrived and is present in the office.



Lunch

- 30 minutes for lunch
- After 20 minutes, students who are finished lunch may go outside for a bonus recess
- Students sit with class- (5th Grade has free seating)
- Lunch is no longer free (\$2.65)
- Snack items (\$.50-\$1.25) - See next slide for limiting snacks
- Packing suggestions/utensils
- Practice at home
- No birthday treats
- No sharing of food
- Allergy needs? Let us know!



Lunch

Serving Times: are grade dependent

Cost: \$2.65

- Menus can be found at this link:
<https://www.fcpsnutrition.com/>
- You can prepay for meals using this link:
<https://linqconnect.com/>
- If you need meal assistance, you may use this link:
<https://linqconnect.com/>
- Unless you specify, your child can purchase unlimited meals and snacks from the cafeteria daily. If you would like to limit snacks or meals, please contact Ms. Dobbie and she will note your child's account to **your** preferences.
- We request that fast food or restaurant food not be brought to the cafeteria. Families who choose not to honor this request will eat with their child in an alternative location.

Melinda Dobbie is our cafeteria manager.

Her contact information is: melinda.dobbie@fcps.org



Office Quiet Hours

* If your child forgets their lunch, water bottle, instrument, homework, permission slip, jacket- or anything else and you plan to bring it to the school- please do the following:

- Bring to table outside the front door.
- Use a post it note and write your child's first and last name, as well as teacher name.
- Leave on the table, a staff member will retrieve the item and deliver to your child.
- No need to ring the bell or call - we monitor the table every 30 minutes.

3:15-3:45 are quiet hours in the office. Please do not call or arrive to pick up students during this time, unless it's an emergency.



Dismissal

Pack up begins @ 3:40 Dismissal changes are called at 3:42

- Kindergarten students are dismissed first.
- Car Riders and Eaglehead East Walkers are called first.
- Students are then dismissed to Bus and Eaglehead South areas after the hallways have cleared of lower level dismissal.

★ Change in pick-up?

- Call the main office at **240-566-0700** before **3:00**.
- Students are given dismissal change slips. In order to deliver them and ensure a safe dismissal, office staff needs time to deliver notes.
- Please do not email or voicemail a dismissal change to the classroom teacher.



Dismissal

Car Riders

Dismiss from the back parking lot of the school.

- The right line is for students in Kindergarten through 5th Grade
- The left line is for PreK 3 and PreK 4.
- A staff member will identify students to be dismissed in order. The first 20 students on the right, will be loaded and dismissed.
- PreK 3's and PreK 4's will be crossed to the left line.
- The right line will be stopped at the bus entrance doors, and cars on the right will be loaded. Cars on the right will be given the all clear to proceed once all PreK students have been **safely** loaded into cars.
- New to car rider line? Please be prepared to show your identification to the person on duty. A call may be made to the office to ensure that you are on the emergency card.



Dismissal

Bus Riders

- Bus Riders dismiss from the “front of the school” through the gym doors.
 - Students are seated in their bus order and called to load buses once the bus has arrived.
 - Staff is on duty to monitor students.
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- If you are picking up your child or need to enter the building during bus dismissal (3:45-4:15), please park in a parking space.
 - The lane in front of the school is a progressively moving lane for buses.
 - Buses are not supposed to pass cars or buses in the bus loading zone.(Thank you for your help in getting bus riders home on time!)



Technology

Students have:

- Access to Chromebooks for their instructional day (K-5)
- Access to Schoology (2-5)
 - Course information
 - Assignments
 - Practice Resources
 - Grades

Cell phones and smart watches are powered off and placed in lockers throughout the instructional day, which also includes the bus.



Safety

- All exterior doors locked at all times
- All visitors access main entrance using doorbell
- Most visitors will remain outdoors for assistance
- Sign in procedure using Raptor Badge System using ID
- Classroom doors locked
- Cameras throughout gym, cafeteria, hallways, and exterior of building
- Drills and safety procedures in place
- Crisis Team



Communication

- School News via FOF (every other week)
- Teacher News (at minimum - every other week)
- School Website
- One Call Now texts
- Follow us on X (Twitter): @fcpsblueheron
- Follow us on Instagram: fcps_bhes
- Teacher Communication: Email/Phone/Voicemail/Notes
- Please no urgent messages on teacher voicemail
- Be respectful of arrival time, instructional times and dismissal time.



Parent Opportunities- PTO

- **BHES PTO-** meets every 2nd Monday of the month @ 6:30 in the cafeteria
- Follow BHES PTO via Instagram- blueheronpto or via Facebook- Blue Heron Elementary School PTO-
- Join the PTO @:

<https://blueheronpto.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true>



Parent Opportunities-

BHES Parent Advisory Group

- Blue Heron Parent Advisory Group is comprised of parents from each grade level that support the goals and initiatives of the school while problem solving issues that may arise. If you have a concern, or question- please contact one of these BHES Parent Advisory Group members. Contact information can be found on our school website.



Parent Opportunities-

BHES Grade Level Parent Squads

- Each grade level at BHES has a Grade Level Parent Squad.
- Every classroom has at least one representative from each class in the grade.
- Squads are responsible for coordinating our 2 school parties: Valentines and End of Year party. (Teachers will select 4 additional chaperones for their individual classrooms)
- Squads have selected one month during the school year to celebrate staff.
- Parent squad contacts can be found on our school website.



Questions????

- Contact your child's teacher.

Welcome to Blue Heron!