



# BARNWELL ELEMENTARY

9425 Barnwell Rd Johns Creek, GA 30022 470-254-4960

Fulton  
County Schools  
Where Students Come First

*A Note from the Principal, Martin Neuhaus*

*August 26, 2021*

## New Information

### COVID Information/Procedures

We have had several cases of confirmed Covid-positive cases at Barnwell the last two weeks, with 6 different classrooms receiving possible “high risk exposure” letters (K, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade). While we are currently able to continue with instruction as normal, there have been several schools that have moved to Remote Learning in certain grade levels. This approach allows us to continue with Face-To-Face instruction throughout most of Barnwell while appropriately quarantining classes or grade levels where warranted. Please know that this is not a local decision, rather this decision is made by our Fulton County Covid Task Force in conjunction with the GA Department of Health.

*If* this decision is made identified teachers/grade levels will pivot to Remote Learning and we will communicate this change to all impacted families as soon as possible.

The [8/24 Epidemiology Report](#) has Johns Creek at a 306.1 Incidence Rate (well above the 100 threshold). This means that we will continue to be under a mask mandate for *at least* the next three weeks (to remove the mask mandate we need two consecutive weeks with an Incidence Rate below 100).

**If you/your child are (1) Covid Positive; (2) exposed to someone Covid-positive at home, or (3) have taken a Covid test because of symptoms (whether positive or negative)** it is imperative that you complete the [Covid Reporting Form](#) and wait for further instructions from Fulton County *before* sending your child back to school. This may take 24-48 hours as the nurses are responding to parents in the order they are submitted to the portal. More information is available on our county Covid website (<https://www.fultonschools.org/coronavirus>). After the county contacts you, they will share with you and us at Barnwell when your child can return to school. Students that are quarantining at home are not considered absent, but are expected to complete 30-45 minutes of iReady Reading and iReady Math each day in addition to any assignments provided by the teacher.

Visit <https://www.fultonschools.org/coronavirus> for the latest information on our county’s Covid protocols, including the new recommendations for quarantining (*students with or without symptoms that are Covid-positive/have direct exposure to Covid-positive individual **at home are required to quarantine at home**, while students without symptoms that have direct exposure at school will be allowed to attend school as long as they wear a mask*).

### Labor Day – September 6<sup>th</sup>

All Fulton County Schools are closed on Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, for Labor Day. Please click [here](#) for the Fulton County School Calendar.

## [2020-21 Georgia Milestones Test Scores](#)

The Georgia Department of Education (GaDOH) has released the 2020-21 Milestones test scores for the state of Georgia. The assessment is designed to provide information about how well students are

mastering the state-adopted content standards in the core content areas of language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies.

In March, the Georgia Department of Education waived promotion/retention consequences tied to Georgia Milestones for the 2020-2021 school year and temporarily lowered the EOC course grade weight to .01%. “Parents and guardians are encouraged to view results in the context of this unique school year,” said Chief Information Officer Dr. Emily Bell. “Although the district encouraged parents and students to take the milestones assessment, due to low participation, these results do not reflect a statistically relevant state of data.”

For our current 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who did take the test, parents can view results for their students in SLDS (Statewide Longitudinal Data System). Individual student reports can also be downloaded from SLDS. Parents can access SLDS through the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#).

## [Summit Counseling at Barnwell!](#)

Elizabeth Ngo, a licensed associate marriage and family therapist, is our new Counseling partner! She serves children and families who are having difficulties with depression, anxiety, peer relations, self-harm, suicidal ideation, family dynamics, communication skills, anger management, emotional regulation, and major life transitions is now seeing students onsite here at Barnwell Elementary.

Please click [here](#) to learn more about Elizabeth and [here](#) to learn more about what Summit Counseling has to offer for Barnwell students and families. You can also email her at [engo@summitcounseling.org](mailto:engo@summitcounseling.org) or call directly at (678) 893-5318.

## [Support our PTO!](#)

Our PTO is almost 3/4 of the way to their \$40,000 goal for this year's Bear Campaign! Thank you to all the families for your support so far. As a reminder, the PTO supports the school in a variety of ways, from events to software upgrades, to improvements around the building. This year's goal is to get back to our great community events and take extra care of our outdoor spaces for additional safety!

Click [here](#) to see the many ways our PTO supports all our students and teachers, then click [here](#) to join our PTO in helping make this year our best year ever! 100% of your donation benefits Barnwell students and staff and is tax-deductible.

If you do not have a login, contact Michelle Erste at [erste@gmail.com](mailto:erste@gmail.com). Have questions about the Bear Campaign or want to become a business partner? Contact Lissa Webber, VP of Fundraising at [lissa.webber@gmail.com](mailto:lissa.webber@gmail.com).

## [Barnwell's Best Award!](#)

Each week our team recognizes a staff member that exemplifies Barnwell's BEST – someone who leads by example, sharing their positive energy and enthusiasm with our school family. This week's Barnwell's BEST Recipient is **Susan Agerton, Professional Assistant II.**

Congratulations to **Susan Agerton** for being one of Barnwell's BEST!



# Recurring School and Community News

## Items Delivered to School

Please know that we do not interrupt classes to bring forgotten items to your child during the school day. If you need to drop off an item after school has started, it will remain in the front office. We will email the teachers and they will send the students if/when there is a break in the day to retrieve their forgotten item. Items will not be delivered to your child's classroom. Please help your child prepare for their day the night before so that they have everything needed for the day when they arrive at school.

## Attendance Options

Attendance at school is critical for students to learn and grow. Our school board provides the following options for students that are not able to be at school:

- **Excused Absence:** This is your typical sick day for illness. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours prior to returning to school. To excuse your child's absence for a sick day simply send a note or email to your child's teacher upon his/her return to school. Any required work that is missed due to an excused absence should be completed within a few days after returning.
- **Pre-Approved Absence:** Use this option when traveling or for family events. To request a pre-approved absence email Principal ([neuhausm@fultonschools.org](mailto:neuhausm@fultonschools.org)) one week prior to trip for approval. Any required work that is missed due to a pre-approved absence should be completed within a few days after returning.
- **Participated Remotely:** This is a new option that allows students to be counted as present even though they are not physically at school for up to 5 days each semester. All requests for Participated Remotely **requires prior approval 72 hours in advance** by completing and submitting the [Participated Remotely Request Form](#) to either our Assistant Principal Ms. Morris ([morrisra@fultonschools.org](mailto:morrisra@fultonschools.org)) or Principal ([neuhausm@fultonschools.org](mailto:neuhausm@fultonschools.org)).

In order to be counted as present for each Participated Remotely day, students **must complete 45 minutes of iReady Reading and 45 minutes of iReady Math each day before midnight**. Failure to complete these requirements will result in an unexcused absence. Any required work that is missed during the day must be completed within 48 hours.

## Bus Information

Students in PreK-1<sup>st</sup> grade will not be let off at the bus stop without a parent waiting for them each afternoon. Please make sure you are at the stop a few minutes prior to the scheduled arrival so students are not brought back to Barnwell. You can download the "[Here Comes the Bus](#)" app on your phone which lets you know where the bus is at all times! The school code is 87428. To register, you will also need your child's ID number. If you have any problems with the "Here Comes the Bus" app, please submit a ticket [here](#) from the device you are using or reach out to Pedro Haynes, Transportation Supervisor at [HaynesP@fultonschools.org](mailto:HaynesP@fultonschools.org). If you need help with your child's ID number, please reach out to Susan Agerton at [Agertons@fultonschools.org](mailto:Agertons@fultonschools.org) or 470-254-4960.

To get bus stop information, visit our [Bus Stop Information website](#) and enter your address for times/locations for your child's morning/afternoon stops.

## Dismissal Changes

While we encourage our students to go home the same way each day, we understand that changes do happen. If you need to make a change in your child's transportation home, please complete our [Dismissal Change Form](#) and send it to school with your child. **Please do not email transportation changes to your child's teacher – teachers do not always have time to check emails!** Please contact our front office at 470-254-4960 if you have any questions about dismissal changes.

## Parent Visitors

As explained in our multiple [Back to School Updates](#), we will NOT have any Visitors/Volunteers in our instructional spaces (classrooms, cafeteria, etc.) between 7:00 and 3:00 PM during the first nine weeks of school.

## Code of Conduct

Our Student Code of Conduct is available on our county website ([click here for electronic copy](#)). All parents are asked to acknowledge receipt through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Please visit the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal website](#) to sign-off on this yearly requirement or for more information on accessing the Parent Portal. Hard copies of the Code of Conduct are available in our front office for interested parents.

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade BBTV Applications

We are excited to begin LIVE news broadcasts with 5<sup>th</sup> graders for BBTV after Labor Day! All 5<sup>th</sup> graders who are interested in joining our news crew should pick up an application in the Media Center. All applicants must have parent permission and a commitment to arrive at school by 7:25 AM on assigned weeks. All applications are due by **September 1<sup>st</sup>**. No late applications will be accepted. Please reach out to Mrs. Shapiro at [shapiro@fultonschools.org](mailto:shapiro@fultonschools.org) with any questions!

## Girls on the Run (Grade's 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>)

Girls on the run is an afterschool program like no other! Girls of all abilities will have fun, make friends, increase physical activity levels, and learn important life skills they can use at home, at school and with friends. For more information, please click [here](#).

## Yearbook Photos/Volunteers Needed

The Yearbook Committee wants to see your photos from ANY SCHOOL EVENT! Uploading is free and easy! Please use the FREE Image Share app to upload them directly onto our secure site. If you have a smartphone, you are officially now a yearbook photographer!

TO UPLOAD PHOTOS FROM YOUR MOBILE DEVICE:

- Search for Balfour Image Share in your app marketplace
- Download the app and create an account
- Enter our project number: **222281** (no upload code needed)

Please enter details (event, grade, teacher name, etc) when prompted so we can place photos in the correct place in the book!

Please direct all questions to Paige Wuyek at [paige.wuyek@gmail.com](mailto:paige.wuyek@gmail.com)

## Johns Creek High School Cheerleaders

Johns Creek High School Cheerleaders will be hosting Youth Night Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, during the football game. They need your help spreading the word! See attached flyer [here](#).

Martin