

BACK TO SCHOOL 2025



The things you
need to know!



BCYC prepares students for the back-to-school season

By **Harvey Jackson Oss**
The Belton Journal

The Belton Christian Youth Center is helping kids get into the back-to-school spirit this year. Multiple events are planned for this August as well as early into the school year.

The first event planned is the summer bash, which will take place on August 7. The event features activities such as five waterslides and two bouncy houses in the gym, with snow cones provided by Sunnie Life Co Shaved Ice & Sunnie Treats. "It's really just a day where they're able to get that last burst of energy out before they

start school for the year," explains Sophia Howell-Dancer, Assistant Youth Service Director and Coordinator at BCYC.

2025 marks the second year that the event has been held. While waterslides were part of last year's celebration, the bounce houses are a new addition. "We realized some of the kids just need a reset before they go back to school," stated Aubrey Patterson, Youth Service Director at BCYC.

Patterson explained that the bash is an important day for students who may miss out on other social opportunities. Many children can't afford to go on school field trips due to low income or having a large amount of siblings. "Being able to provide that for them, to be able to come

here, have snacks, hydrate, waterslide with their friends, it gives them a lot of social interaction."

Children get the chance to connect with staff in a less formal environment during the bash. On a typical day staff serve the role of teacher, but during the event they become playmates. "You definitely see them become kids out there with them, which I think is really special," said Patterson.

BCYC will collaborate with Helping Hands Ministry to host the annual shoe drive in the gym on August 9. A range of shoe sizes are collected from donors, including adult sizes for parents. "They do a great event and they're great people... we're happy to provide the space for them,"

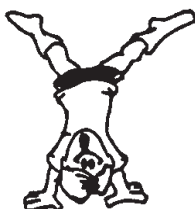
stated Daniel Bucher, Executive Director at BCYC.

The afterschool program begins on August 12 and runs until May 20. Students are grouped into classes by age, and participate in structured activities such as bible study, team games, science experiments, crafts, and outdoor/gym time. One meal is served per day. "Those kiddos who maybe don't have a meal to go home to, they're able to have one here" said Howell-Dancer. This year the center will feature a homework room where students can work on their assignments and get help from staff. BCYC's pick up area is also expanding to serve Salado and Little River-Academy.

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BELTON ISD will resume operating the National School Lunch Program in 2025-2026

Meal Pricing

Elementary Breakfast \$1.25

Elementary Lunch \$2.65

Secondary Breakfast \$1.50

Secondary Lunch \$2.85

Reduced Breakfast \$0.30

Reduced Lunch \$0.40

Adult Breakfast \$3.50

Adult Lunch \$5.00

Visit myschoolbucks.com or scan to make a payment on your students account.



Meal Payments:

Online Payments: Our online prepayment system is the MySchoolBucks.com system. The convenience fee per transaction is \$2.75. MySchoolBucks has the following payment methods available for use: Visa, Mastercard, Discover, or Electronic Check.

Parents can setup low balance email alerts in MySchoolBucks or view purchases and account balance

Check Payments: If paying by check, please write your student's name and ID number (if known) on the memo section of the check.

Cash Payments: If your student is in elementary school and you would like to pay with cash, please send cash in an envelope with the student's name and ID number (if known) written on the outside. **Online Payments:** Our online prepayment system is the MySchoolBucks.com system.

BISD Charge Policy Elementary:

Students may charge when needed. When the student reaches a negative balance the School Nutrition Department makes every effort to notify the parent/guardian of the negative balance.

Secondary:

Students may charge when needed. When the student reaches a negative balance the School Nutrition Department makes every effort to notify the parent/guardian of the negative balance.

Students may decline either meal. Students are not be allowed to charge a la carte purchases.

Negative balance notifications go out three times a week utilizing phone, email and/or text through an automated message system.

Every week, the School Nutrition

Department will send out negative balance letters to the parent/guardian on file to make every effort to collect negative balance amounts.

Payments are accepted at the campus cafeteria, online at www.myschoolbucks.com, in person or by mail at the School Nutrition Office at 1220 Huey Road Belton, Texas 76513

If a positive balance remains in an account, you may request a refund or transfer to another students account by calling the School Nutrition Office at (254) 215-2186. If you would like the remaining balance donated to our Angel fund to help cover other student's negative balances please call the School Nutrition office at (254)215-2186. If we

are not contacted the positive balance will be carried forward to the next school year.

****Senior Balances** - If a positive balance remains on a graduating senior's account, the parent/guardian has 60 calendar days from when the "Positive Balance Letters" are sent to contact the School Nutrition Office:

- 1) Request a refund from School Nutrition
- 2) Transfer the remaining funds into an enrolled sibling's account.
- 3) Donate remaining funds to Angel Fund to offset negative student balances.

If we do not receive a response to the letter within 60 calendar days, the amount will be donated to the Angel Fund.**



Information to help you and your student(s) be prepared for the first day on Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Enrollment

First things first. If you haven't completed the returning student verification or new student enrollment process for your student — do so now! Both can be submitted online at www.bisd.net/enrollment. Administrators at your child's school can answer any specific questions you may have.

Calendars

Be sure to print the 2025-2026 Student Academic Calendar and take note of the year's student holidays, early release days, bad weather makeup days and reporting periods. And remember — attendance matters! Missing just two days a month means a child misses 10% of the school year. Start

working on your plan now to make regular attendance the norm in your household.

Bell Schedules

Being punctual is also important, so set those alarms! Here are the bell schedules for our schools:

- Belton Early Childhood School
7:35 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
- Elementary Schools
7:35 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.
- Middle Schools
8:10 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.
- Belton High School
8:50 a.m. - 4:25 p.m.
- Lake Belton High School
8:50a.m. - 4:25 p.m.
- Belton New Tech @Waskow
8:40 a.m. - 4:13 p.m.
- DAEP 7:40 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.



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**AFTER-SCHOOL
SPORTS
SUMMER**

Important information for BISD parents and students

Skyward Family Access

Skyward Family Access is where Belton ISD families can see their child's grades and attendance, as well as receive messages from teachers, view report cards, request notifications and set Skylert (email) preferences. You may want to bookmark Skyward Family Access or download the mobile app for easy access to this important site.

ParentSquare

ParentSquare offers a unified and secure platform for district administrators, school principals, teachers, staff, and parents to:

- Send and receive school and class information
- Share documents and files
- View calendar items
- Sign up to volunteer
- Schedule parent-teacher conferences

And much more...in one centralized place

Visit ParentSquare Overview for more information on this platform.

ParentSquare Introduction to Parents - English

ParentSquare Introduction to Parents - Spanish

How to Manage ParentSquare Notifications

Bus Transportation

No registration is required for students to ride the bus. Simply verify route information online at www.bisd.net/transportation. You can also view the Bus Rider Safety Handbook online. After the first few days of school, student ID cards will be issued and used as a bus pass.

SmartTag (Bus Notifications)

Parents/guardians are encouraged to register for the SmartTag Parent Portal. This will allow parents to be notified when their student gets on and off the bus and will also locate

his or her bus during the route. Once you are registered, you can then download the free SmartTag app to your iPhone or Android device. Please refer to the Transportation Services webpage for more information. Starting September 5th, all bus riders are required to use their SmartTag student ID to ride the bus. Failure to utilize the SmartTag ID could result in suspension of bus privileges. The consequences for noncompliance are located in the Bus Rider Safety Handbook located on the BISD website. Students that are exempt from facing consequences include students with special needs, students in foster care, students in the Heartbeat program (homeless), and students in DAEP.

School Meals

For information about menus or loading money to lunch accounts, please visit the district's Nutrition page. Families interested in Free and Reduced School Meals should submit an application at www.school lunchapp.com. The application will be available beginning August 1.

Emergency Communications & Inclement Weather Protocol

Please ensure you are familiar with Belton ISD's protocols for emergency communications and inclement weather. To receive communication from the district, make sure your contact information has been updated in Skyward/Family Access. Emergency Communications Inclement Weather Protocol

Anonymous Alerts System

Students or parents in the school community can anonymously submit any suspicious activity, bullying or other student related issues to a school

administrator(s). We encourage you to report important issues. Once you complete the contact form, you will receive a confirmation that your information has been submitted to the school district. Submit an Anonymous Alert

School Supply List

You'll find school supply lists at www.bisd.net/supplies. If you ordered pre-packaged supplies (genius!), those will be delivered directly to your child's classroom.

Tax-Free Weekend

Texas' annual sale tax holiday is set for August 8th through 10th. Most clothing, footwear, school supplies and backpacks (sold for less than \$100) purchased during the weekend is tax-free.

Use of Personal Electronic Devices

To promote the best possible learning and social environment in Belton ISD's classrooms and schools, student access and use of personal electronic devices will not be allowed during the school day. For more information and cell phone guidelines please visit Use of Personal Electronic Devices.

District Flickr

Belton ISD's Flickr account features photos from various events and moments with our students, staff, and community throughout the school year.

Events

Be sure to follow your school's social media for details about back-to-school events, meet the teacher nights, new student information, parent orientations, and more! Also, watch your inbox for emails from the campus principal with more information.





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Belton ISD Transportation Services

The Belton ISD Transportation Department is responsible for setting bus routes and schedules and offers transportation to and from school and to extracurricular activities for all BISD students.

Two new elementary schools opened during the 2024-25 school year, creating new elementary boundaries. Verify your student’s route information online at [Infofinder 25-26](#). Type your address to see what school your students will attend. For specific bus information, check Infofinder after August 1st.

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Fax: 254-215-2151



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Belton Independent School District
Elementary School Supply List

Pre-K

1 Ream Copy Paper
1 pair of 5 inch kid scissors
2 plastic folders with pockets & brads
2 composition book
2 pkg. of markers (8 count - multicolors)
3 box of crayons (24 count)
1 pkg. of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
2 glue sticks
2 4 oz. bottle glue
4 containers of playdough
3 boxes facial tissues
1 box of quart size bags
1 box gallon size bags
3 pkgs. of baby wipes
1 dozen #2 pencils
2 bottles hand sanitizer
***Extra set of clothing for emergency**
NO NAP MAT NEEDED

KINDERGARTEN

1 pair of on-ear headphones (No bluetooth or recharging)
2 solid-colored plastic folders with pockets & brads
1 pkg. assorted colors construction paper (boys)
1 pkg. white construction paper (girls)
2 pkg. of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
2 primary composition books
2 dozen #2 pencils (pre sharpened preferred)
1 pkg. of markers (8 count)
3 boxes of crayons (24 count)
1 pair of scissors
8 glue sticks
1 ream of copy paper
1 bottle of liquid Elmer's glue
1 box of quart size bags (girls)
1 box of gallon size bags (boys)
2 boxes facial tissues
1 bottle hand sanitizer (boys)
1 pkg. baby wipes (girls)
*Extra set of clothing for your child for emergency

FIRST GRADE

1 pair of on-ear headphones
1 pkg. white construction paper 12x18
1 pkg. assorted colors construction paper 12x18
4 colored primary composition books
4 plastic pocket folders with brads (assorted solid colors)
1 bottle hand sanitizer
1 pkg baby wipes
1 glue bottle
2 pkg. of markers (8 count)
2 packages of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
2 reams of copy paper
1 box of quart size bags (girls)
1 box of gallon size bags (boys)
2 boxes facial tissues

SECOND GRADE

1 pair of on-ear headphones
1 pkg. white construction paper 12x18
1 pkg. assorted colors construction paper 12x18
4 composition books
4 plastic pocket folders with brads (assorted solid colors)
1 pkg. notebook paper
1 rectangular pencil bag with zipper
3 dozen #2 pencils
1 pkg. colored pencils
1 pkg. of markers (8 count)
2 boxes of Crayola crayons (24 count)
1 pair of scissors
8 glue sticks
1 ream of copy paper
2 pkgs. of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
1 bottle liquid glue
1 pkg highlighters (2-pack)
1 pkg baby wipes
1 bottle hand sanitizer
1 box of quart size bags (girls)
1 box of gallon size bags (boys)
2 boxes facial tissues

THIRD GRADE

1 pair of on-ear headphones
1 pkg. white construction paper (boys) - 12x18
1 pkg. color construction paper (girls) - 12x18
4 composition books
4 plastic pocket folders with brads (solid colors)
1 pkg of notebook paper
1 rectangular pencil bag with zipper
3 dozen #2 pencils
1 pkg. colored pencils
1 pkg. of markers (8 count)
1 pkg. yellow highlighters (2 pack)
2 boxes of Crayola crayons (24 count)
6 glue sticks
1 pkg. pencil top erasers
2 pkgs. of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
1 ream of copy paper
2 pkg. of 3X3 post-it notes
1 box of quart size bags (girls)
1 box of gallon size bags (boys)
1 pair of scissors
3 boxes facial tissues

FOURTH GRADE

1 pair of on-ear headphones
1 pkg. white construction paper (boys) - 12x18
1 pkg. color construction paper (girls) 12x18
4 composition books
4 plastic pocket folders with brads (solid colors)
1 rectangular pencil bag with zipper
3 dozen #2 pencils
1 pkg. colored pencils (girls)
1 pkg. of markers (8 count) (boys)
1 pkg. highlighters (2 pack)
1 pair of scissors
1 box of crayons (24 count)
6 glue sticks
1 bottle liquid glue
2 pkgs. of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
1 ream of copy paper (boys)
1 box of plastic sandwich bags (girls)
2 pkg. of 3X3 post-it notes
2 boxes facial tissues

FIFTH GRADE

1 pair of on-ear headphones
1 pkg. color construction paper (girls) - 12x18
1 pkg. white construction paper (boys) - 12x18
5 composition books
2 spiral notebooks
4 plastic pocket folders with brads (assorted solid colors)
2 pkgs. of notebook paper
1 hand held pencil sharpener
1 rectangular pencil bag with zipper
3 dozen #2 pencils
1 pkg. colored pencils
1 pkg. highlighters (4 pack multicolored)
1 pair of scissors
4 glue sticks
1 ream of copy paper
2 pkg. of 3X3 post-it notes
1 pkg. of markers (8 count)
1 pkg. pencil top erasers
2 pkgs. of black dry erase markers (4 pack)
3 boxes facial tissues
1 bottle hand sanitizer
1 pkg baby wipes

A backpack is recommended
for all students for transporting
materials and important papers.



Belton Independent School District
Belton New Tech High @Waskow

- 1 Package Earbuds
- 2 Composition Notebooks
- 1 Package Pens
- 1 Package Pencils
- 2 Packages of 3x5 Index Cards
- 1 Package Notebook Paper
- 1 Package of Graph Paper
- 1 SD Cards (compatible with MacBook Pro, minimum 32gb)
- 1 Backpack or Bag appropriate for safely transporting laptop to and from school
(Students will be provided a case for the laptop)
- 1 Professional Dress Outfit*

*At BNTH@W, students frequently give presentations in which they are required to dress professionally.

Please make sure that your child will be able to meet this expectation. Professional dress is defined as clothes that one might wear for a job interview. Examples are slacks, khaki pants, collared or button-down shirt, or a dress/skirt. There is a location on campus with professional dress that has been donated in limited sizes.

At this point in their educational career, students are expected to take notes in class. Therefore, the student should have the materials needed to write down information and organize it in a manner that they can locate their work later.

Classroom teachers may require other supplies during the first week of school.

Belton Independent School District
BHS & LBHS
Supply List

- 1 package 12-count map pencils (Grades 9-1 only)
- 2 packages of #2 pencils (or mechanical)
- 2 packages of pens (blue or black)
- 2 packages of notebook paper (wide or college ruled)
- 4 composition notebooks
- 1 package of earbuds
- 1 TI 84 Calculator or purchase of N-spire Calculator
- App (optional, one or other is recommended)
- 1 package of graph paper
- 1 box of facial tissue

Other supplies may be required by classroom teachers during the first week of school

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Solve the code to discover words related to the school year.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 6 = S)

A. 26 18 25 21 20 7 26
Clue: Teach

B. 11 26 6 6 14 4 6
Clue: Plans for teaching

C. 21 11 20 6 6 12 14 14 13
Clue: Where students gather

D. 6 16 11 11 20 23 25 6
Clue: Course outline

Strategies for students facing challenging classes

Every student takes something unique from their high school experience, and many eventually look back fondly on the years spent in the hallowed halls of their alma maters. High school might be the last step before learning a trade career or serve as four years of preparation for college. Either way, it is important to get good grades.

Continually challenging oneself with coursework can help students get the most out of their academic careers. General level classes are often taken freshman year and honors classes sophomore year. Students may then decide to enroll in advanced placement or dual enrollment classes as an upperclassman. As students continue to push themselves and classes get harder, they may have to revise their approach in order to excel. These guidelines can help students continue to be successful.

- Establish a solid foundation. The first step towards success in any class is gaining a solid understanding of the basics, says Stemly Tutoring. If there are gaps in foundational knowledge, assignments and tests can be particularly difficult as the coursework becomes harder. Routinely

reviewing previous material and ensuring that the fundamental concepts are mastered is essential.

- Practice active learning. Active learning involves engaging with the material in a way that goes beyond passively reading texts. Ideas include formulating questions, quizzing classmates, explaining the material to others as a teacher would, and writing down key words and topics so they are more likely to be remembered.
- Focus on time management. In high school, five or more classes run concurrently during the year. Assignments may have similar due dates, and tests and quizzes may come more frequently. Students will need to master an organizational system and time management strategy that works for them. Students can utilize a day planner as a useful organizational tool. Breaking down long-term assignments into smaller pieces that are easier to manage also can be useful. Smartphone notifications can alert to due dates.
- Seek help when needed. Students shouldn't hesitate to ask for help from peers, academic coaches, tutors, or their

teachers. Study groups or partnerships with classmates also may be fruitful. Students should not wait until they are falling behind to seek help, as that can make it much more challenging to catch up.

- Study regularly. Reviewing material frequently and reinforcing knowledge is a smart strategy. Creating visual aids like diagrams or maps can help students understand a subject more fully. Again, this carries back to mastering the fundamentals. Looking back on previous lessons may help students with current

ones.

- Don't forget to find balance and prioritize self-care. Academics are important, but so is mastering a balance between schoolwork and other activities. Without balance, a student may experience burnout, stress and additional symptoms that can impede students' ability to do well in school.

High school coursework gets more difficult as the years pass and students challenge themselves. Certain strategies can help students navigate increasingly challenging coursework.

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