

# Birmingham Covington School

Mark Morawski, *Principal* • 248.203.4428 • Fax: 248.203.4433 • mmmorawski@birmingham.k12.mi.us  
Jason Hill, *Assistant Principal* • 248.203.4430 • Fax: 248.203.4433 • jhill@birmingham.k12.mi.us  
1525 Covington Road, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

April 2019

Dear Parents and Community Members:

We are pleased to present you with the Annual Education Report (AER), which provides key information on the 2017-18 educational progress for Birmingham Covington School. The AER addresses the complex reporting information required by federal and state laws. The school's report contains information about student assessment, accountability, and teacher quality. If you have any questions about the AER, please contact me at 248.203.4428 for assistance. The AER is available for you to review electronically by visiting the following web site <http://bit.ly/2tWOIYo>, or you may review a copy in the main office at the school.

For the 2017-18 school year, schools were identified using new definitions and labels as required in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). A Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) school is one that has at least one underperforming student subgroup. An Additional Targeted Support (ATS) school is one that has three or more underperforming student subgroups. A Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school is one whose performance is in the lowest 5% of all schools in the state. Some schools are not identified with any of these labels. In these cases, no label is given. Birmingham Covington School has not received a label.

BCS is a dynamic and collaborative learning community. We cultivate an engaging environment that embraces all students and empowers them to pose questions, integrate resources, synthesize, evaluate and apply their knowledge to positively influence our diverse and ever-changing world. Our vision is to inspire students to lead in the global community through a passion for learning, innovating, and inquiry & design. We commit to:

- educate the whole child, supporting the needs of all learners.
- foster and nurture a learning community of character valuing integrity, diversity and acceptance.
- prepare students, through original and authentic learning experiences, to create solutions meeting the challenges of tomorrow on a global scale.
- adapt purposefully by efficiently utilizing the resources around us to ensure academic excellence in our evolving world.

Our students continue to achieve at high levels in both reading and math. As we examine our data at the higher grade levels, we continue to recognize a need to improve service to students who may require greater levels of support including students identified as having a disability in math, reading and writing. In response to this need, we continue to implement reading and math interventions as well as refining a more uniformed intervention process in an effort to better support students in the earlier grades (3rd-6th). Continuing to refine the process and additional support will help improve students' skills prior to reaching higher levels of academic content. Our teachers utilize interdisciplinary approaches to help our students make important connections across content areas with written and oral communication as our school wide academic focus. Our project based learning approach helps engage our students academically through authentic opportunities, which is highlighted by Edutopia (April 2017) in both an article and accompanying videos at the following link: <https://www.edutopia.org/article/birmingham-covington-building-student-centered-school>. Our school day is rigorous and full exciting programs that afford students opportunities to follow their passion. Not only do our core subject area courses allow students drive their learning, but we also have co-curricular programs and an extensive extended day Choice Hour program that provides our students with remarkable learning experiences to follow their passions through authentic, student-driven learning. At

BCS our goal is not necessarily to have every student become an engineer, but we want every student in our program be able to think like one.

State law requires that we also report the additional information:

1. Birmingham Public Schools is a closed district, which means that families must live within the district to be placed at a neighborhood school. Tuition-based programs are available for out-of-district families interested in attending our district.
2. BCS continues to focus on Character Education embedded in purposeful educational opportunities we provide to students. Our refined focus on interdisciplinary, project based learning opportunities both locally and globally has given our students authentic, service learning opportunities to apply, more broadly, what they have learned. Additionally, with the continued implementation of an annual school wide theme, character education is integrated organically and deliberately in all aspects of school life at BCS. Our staff continues to engage themselves in professional learning with each other, as well as colleagues from near and far, in order to improve their craft, as well as to collect, analyze and discuss student qualitative and quantitative data to drive instruction and advance programs and student progress. We will continue with our academic focus of developing the communication skills of our students both orally and through writing as it relates to claim, evidence, reasoning, synthesis and presentation.
3. BPS offers specialized schools to students within the district.
  - a. Birmingham Covington School is a 3-8 district-wide school of choice open to BPS students with a special emphasis on science and technology. Interested students may register to enroll. If there are not enough spaces available, a lottery is held in January to select students for the upcoming school year.
  - b. Lincoln Street Alternative High School seeks to develop the unique talents of their students by providing them the opportunity to acquire the skills, knowledge and attitude necessary to live successfully in a changing world. LSAHS provides a flexible learning environment in a family atmosphere that encourages student decision-making, critical thinking, understanding of and appreciation for individual and cultural differences, and good citizenship in our democratic society.
  - c. BPS partners with the International Academy to offer the International Baccalaureate program to high school students. Currently, the district holds 80 seats for interested students accepted into the program.
  - d. Oakland Schools Technical Campus Southeast is an extension of the high school program and provides nine educational clusters, which are developed around broad occupational areas containing many different, but related, career training options for students.
4. BPS adheres to the Career and College Readiness academic standards and Michigan Merit Curriculum from the State of Michigan. Information on these can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/MI-Standards>. In addition, our district continues to work to fully align our K-12 curriculum with state and national standards. As work progresses on these efforts, information will be made available to parents on our district website under the [Teaching and Learning Department page](#).
5. The state requires each district to administer district-selected tests in English Language Arts and Mathematics in first through eighth grades. BPS uses assessments closely tied to its curriculum. The school district assesses students in grades 1-5 each spring with the Fountas & Pinnell Reading assessment. The following Fountas and Pinnell data represent the percentages of students that scored at or above standard in 2018 and 2017.

Fountas & Pinnell	Year	% Above Standard		
		3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
BCS	Spring 2018	98	95	94
BCS	Spring 2017	93	93	89

The school district administers the NWEA Reading and Math assessments in Grades 1-8. Below are spring 2018 and spring 2017 mean RIT (Rasch unit) scores, compared to national norm RIT scores.

		RIT Mean Score					
NWEA Reading	Year	3rd	4 <sup>th</sup>	5th	6th	7 <sup>th</sup>	8th
BCS	Spring 2018	209.0	212.3	217.3	223.4	226.6	230.2
BCS	Spring 2017	205.6	212.9	218.2	221.0	228.8	230.2
NWEA National Norms	Spring 2015	198.6	205.9	211.8	215.8	218.2	220.1
		RIT Mean Score					
NWEA Math	Year	3rd	4 <sup>th</sup>	5th	6th	7 <sup>th</sup>	8th
BCS	Spring 2018	210.5	220.9	229.5	234.5	241.4	247.7
BCS	Spring 2017	209.0	219.0	229.1	235.4	242.2	249.9
NWEA National Norms	Spring 2015	203.4	213.5	221.4	225.3	228.6	230.9

In the spring of 2018, eighth graders also took the PSAT 8/9. Following are the mean scores compared to total (US and International) test takers.

PSAT 8/9 Spring Grade 8	Year	Total Mean Score	Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	Math
BCS	2018	986	493	493
Total Group	2018	868	434	434

- At BCS, during the 2017-18 school year, approximately 96% of parents/guardians attended a conference (97% for female students and 95% for male students). This compares to approximately 97% for the 2016-17 school year (98% for female students and 96.5% for male students).

We thank the BCS community for their continued support of our innovative programs and activities. We are pleased to present this report for your review. To review all that BCS has to offer in our educational experience visit [https://www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/why\\_bcs](https://www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/why_bcs) and for a complete list of points of pride regarding our unique educational program, visit [https://www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/bcs\\_pride](https://www.birmingham.k12.mi.us/bcs_pride). Please feel free to contact the district at (248) 203-3025 or me for more information about our achievements.

Sincerely,

Mark Morawski  
Principal

---

**NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION**

The Board of Education is committed to maintaining a learning/working environment in which all individuals are treated with dignity and respect, free from discrimination and harassment. There will be no tolerance for discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information, disability or age. The District prohibits harassment and other forms of discrimination whether occurring at school, on District property, in a District vehicle, or at any District related activity or event. The Superintendent will designate compliance officers and develop and implement regulations for the reporting, investigation and resolution of complaints of discrimination or harassment. The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Students - Inquiries related to discrimination on the basis of disability should be directed to: Executive Director of Specialized Instruction and Student Services, 31301 Evergreen Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025, 248.203.3000. Direct all other inquiries related to discrimination to: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, 31301 Evergreen Road, Beverly Hills, MI 48025, 248.203.3000.