



the student handbook

# Benson High Magnet School

2021-2022

**BENSON**  
MIGHTY BUNNIES



## **Multi-Tiered System of Support for Behavior (MTSS-B) is being implemented in all Omaha Public Schools and Programs.**

### ***We believe...***

We cannot “make” students learn or behave.

But we CAN create environments to increase the likelihood that students learn and behave.

We CAN create environments to increase the likelihood of positive behaviors occurring.

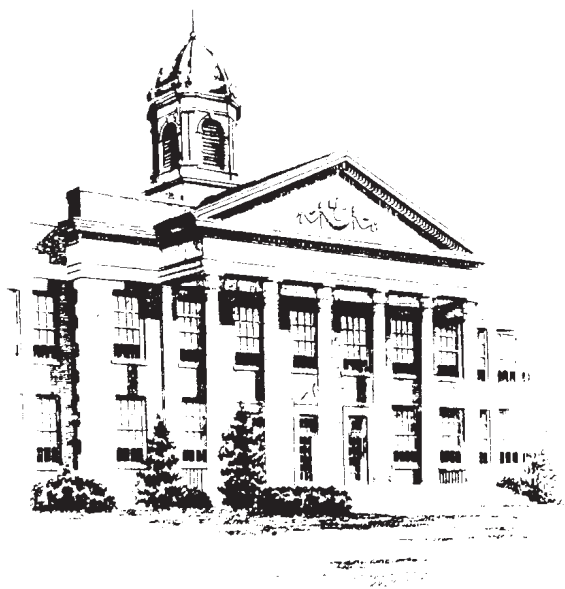
These environments are guided by a set of standardized practices implemented with consistency and fidelity.

MTSS-B is a problem-solving framework for teaching desired behaviors in each school. MTSS-B utilizes consistent practices that have tiers of increasingly intensive supports to increase the likelihood students are academically, emotionally, behaviorally and socially successful.

### ***With consistent implementation, Multi-Tiered System of Support for Behavior***

- Improves the school climate
- Reduces aggressive behaviors
- Reduces major disciplinary infractions such as suspensions
- Improves concentration, positive social behavior, and emotional regulation
- Improves academic achievement.

***If you would like more information about how MTSS-B is implemented in your school, contact the building principal.***



# Benson High Magnet School

5120 Maple Street / Omaha, Nebraska 68104-3599  
531-299-2520 / [benson.ops.org](http://benson.ops.org)

## **BHS Mission:**

The mission of Benson High Magnet School is to prepare students to excel in college, career, and civic-life through career academies, high-performing educators, and community partners.

## **BHS Vision:**

To graduate students prepared to excel in college, career, and civic-life.



## **Mission Statement**

Omaha Public Schools prepares all students to excel in college, career, and life.

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## **Vision Statement**

Every student. Every day. Prepared for success.

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Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-9822). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Equity and Diversity, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-0307).

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**NOT UPDATED...  
 GENERIC INFO  
 FOR NOW**

## About Benson High Magnet School

The forerunner of Benson High School was organized in 1904 as a two-year program added to Benson Central School located at 60th and Maple Streets. Fourteen students were in those grades and studied English, mathematics, history and Latin. To complete their high school education, these students had to transfer to the old Omaha High School (now Central High) traveling several miles by street car. The district added 11th grade in 1905 and completed the addition of 12th grade in 1908. Benson proudly celebrated its centennial in 2004 with an all-class alumni banquet at the Qwest Center.

Benson High graduated its first four-year class consisting of six girls and two boys in 1913. Benson Central School became part of the Omaha Public Schools when Omaha annexed the city of Benson in 1917. In the early 1920's, the Omaha School District approved building a Benson High school and a Monroe School on a 22 acre site northeast of 52nd and Maple Streets.

On December 17, 1926, Benson High's students marched in a parade from Benson Central School to their new building at 52nd and Maple. The new high school cost \$481,000 to build. Benson was designed in the Georgian colonial style, with stately columns at the south entrance and three cupolas on the roof that would lend the school's yearbook its name. Miss Mary McNamara, the school's first principal, organized the parade so that students could move the furnishings of their old school to their new school. All boys pulled wagons that they brought from home full of school furnishings, and girls carried items in their aprons. Additions to Benson took place in 1957-58 and a multimillion dollar renovation was completed in 1991.

Today Benson enrolls about 1,350 students in grades 9 through 12 and is a comprehensive high school offering a full array of high school, vocational, and college preparatory courses to meet the needs of today's students.

## Benson High Administration

Name	Title	Student Last Name	Phone	Email
Tom Wagner	Principal		531-299-8035	tom.wagner@ops.org
Melinda Bailey	Assistant Principal – Athletic Director	Administrator for Grade 12	531-299-7224	melinda.bailey@ops.org
Casey Campin	Assistant Principal – Activities	Administrator for Grade 11	531-299-8022	casey.campin@ops.org
Todd Martin	Assistant Principal – Data	Administrator for Grade 12	531-299-7906	todd.martin@ops.org
MJ Buckner	Dean of Students	Administrator for Grade 10	531-299-7941	michael.buckner@ops.org
Jason Rhine	Dean of Students	Administrator for Grade 09	531-299-7986	jason.rhine@ops.org

## Benson High Administration

Name	Department	Phone	Email
Michael Duggan	Special Education	531-299-7942	michael.duggan@ops.org
JoAnna Hale	Math, Art, Industrial Tech, Science	531-299-7980	joanna.hale@ops.org
Kristen Hughes	English as a Second Language	531-299-8984	kristen.hughes@ops.org
Angela Johaneck	Career Academy Specialist	531-299-8040	angela.johaneck@ops.org
Jane Laughlin	English, Music, Drama, Reading, GPS	531-299-7990	jane.laughlin@ops.org
Mary Reece	Social Studies, PE, Health, JROTC, World Languages, AP	531-299-7947	mary.reece@ops.org

## Visitors to the School

Many times throughout the year, there are reasons for people to visit the building (dropping off/picking up student, visiting a teacher, meeting with administrator, lunch with student, etc.) We welcome visitors to Benson High School. Below is the process for visiting:

- All visitors must enter through the north door, sign in with security, obtain a visitor's badge (and display it), and sign out with security when leaving.
- Visitations to a classroom must be arranged at least 24 hours in advance with the student's administrator. The visit cannot disrupt the classroom learning environment. We ask that visitors follow classroom & school procedures (removal of hats, classroom cell phone policy is followed, etc.).
- If there is potential for disruption, the principal or his/her designee has the discretion to deny access to the classroom. Should this happen, a private meeting will be arranged with the parent, teacher, and other appropriate school personnel.
- Parents/guardians wishing to pick up their students, after signing in with security, must present ID to the attendance secretary. For this reason, please make certain we have accurate records for who may or may not pick up your student.

## College and Career Academics

Benson High School resides in the middle of the historic community of Benson, one of Omaha's most famous arts and entertainment districts. Benson High School is the state's only "wall-to-wall" career academy school where every student is involved in a career academy program. Our career academies were designed by a taskforce comprised of alumni, community members, business leaders, faculty, staff and external stakeholders. They identified three Career Academy themes: Business & Entrepreneurship, Health Professions, and Design. Each of the career academy programs will introduce students to "Career Ladders"; opportunities for students to enter employment directly after high school, continue their postsecondary training (at a community college and/or university) or do both - work and be tailored to the individual student and he/she will have access to Honors and Advanced Placement® coursework in each of the three academy programs.

***"Our goal is to prepare students to be both college and career ready upon graduation."***

## School Counseling Program

Students are assigned to a counselor. That counselor is responsible for students' four (4) year academic plan, post-secondary plan and social-emotional needs. Counselors coordinate assemblies, classroom lessons, small groups and individual planning with students to meet these needs. They are available daily to respond to family's and student's needs.

Andrea Brown (Director) .....531-299-8043..... andrea.brown@ops.org  
 Katie Cameron.....531-299-8012 ..... deborah.cameron@ops.org  
 Susan Barnes .....531-299-7695 ..... susan.barnes@ops.org  
 Bev Johnson .....531-299-8028 ..... beverly.johnson@ops.org  
 Robert Koneck-Wilcox.....531-299-7992 ..... robert.koneck-wilcox@ops.org  
 Shauntae Starks .....531-299-7916 ..... shauntae.starks@ops.org

## Scheduling Changes/Requests for Dropping or Adding a Class:

Students register in the spring for the following year. A student will have two opportunities to select courses:

1. At the time of registration.
2. Following the original registration when the student receives a copy of courses selected.

***Course registration changes for the following year will be made only:***

1. If the course was completed during summer school.
2. If the student must repeat a course that was failed during the previous school year.
3. If a conflict in the schedule cannot be adjusted without dropping or changing a course.
4. If the student needs an additional course to meet graduation requirements.

Dropping a course after the first 15 days of the semester will result in a grade of "F" which is included in grade point average calculations. Requests to drop a course will be initiated by the student or parent to the school counselor.

## Shortened School Day

A shortened school day is an option for seniors only. In order to be eligible for class release, seniors must earn 32 credits by January of their junior year. Class schedules will not be rearranged to accommodate a shortened day once schedules have been printed and distributed to students. Arrangement for a shortened day must be made prior to the beginning of the school year. A complete guide to eligibility can be found in the Course Catalog. **Students must sign out and leave the school area immediately upon their release. Failure to do so will result in reinstatement of a full schedule.**

## Class Rank

A student's class rank is determined by the cumulative grade point average. The GPA takes into account the credit earned, the points awarded with the grade, and the weight of the course. Courses are weighted according to the following chart:

Grade Earned	Grade Points Awarded
A.....	4 (or 5 for Honors/AP)
B.....	3 (or 4 for Honors/AP)
C.....	2 (or 3 for Honors/AP)
D.....	1 (or 2 for Honors/AP)
F.....	0

## National Honor Society

Membership in the Benson High School Magnet National Honor Society is gained through the selection by a Faculty Council. In order to be considered, a student must be eligible. A student's eligibility is based on the following criteria:

1. SCHOLARSHIP — Each sophomore or junior to be considered must have a Grade Point Average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.
2. CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP — Each student will be rated for the qualities of character and leadership only by those members of the teaching staff who have had that student in class.
3. SERVICE — Each student will have an opportunity to complete a Student Activity Information Form on the services he/she has rendered to his/her school and community.
4. Eligibility is determined after the third semester of high school career. (2nd semester of sophomore year.)

Utilizing these four sources of data (scholarship, character, leadership and service), the Faculty Council will select its members for the National Honor Society. Membership is open to all eligible students. Every year each student in the National Honor Society is reconsidered for re-election. Membership in the National Honor Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Students selected for membership are expected to maintain a standard of excellence in the four areas of selection or they will be dismissed.

## Honor Roll

Students who earn a 3.50 GPA or higher during a semester are named to the Principal's Honor Roll. Students who earn a 3.00-3.49 GPA during a semester are named to the Academic Honor Roll.

## Academic Letter

Students earning a 3.5 term GPA for three (3) semesters **at Benson** will be awarded an academic letter at Honors' Night. Student that have not already received a Benson High School letter will receive a letter and all will receive an academic pin. At five (5) semesters **at Benson**, students will receive a bar. At seven (7) semesters **at Benson**, students will receive an additional bar.

## Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The top two students who have earned the highest cumulative grade point averages after their seventh semester, will be recognized as senior class valedictorian and salutatorian at Honors' Night and Commencement.

## Benson High School Magnet Wall of Distinction

Benson High School students who complete a Wall of Distinction Application by the last Friday in March and have achieved an exceptional level of excellence, as outlined below, will be recognized on the Wall of Distinction and at Honors' Night.

	Local Academic	National Academic	Extra-Curricular	Leadership/Character
5	Top 1-2% of Graduating Class	ACT > 90%tile or SAT > 90%tile or National Merit Finalist/Semi-finalist or 5 AP Exams Score 4 or Higher	Involvement in 4 or more activities (athletics, music, drama, journalism, ROTC, robotics, NHS, academic decathlon, student council, other clubs) or National Recognition	Holds officer/captain position in any school activity/organization and no behavior incidences.
4	Top 3-5% of Graduating Class	ACT > 80%tile or SAT > 80%tile or National Merit Commended Student or 4 AP Exams Score 4 or Higher	State Place Winner and involvement in 2 additional activities	More than just a passive member of any school activity/organization and no behavior incidences.
3	Top 6-10% of Graduating Class	ACT >70%tile or SAT > 70%tile or 3 AP Exams Score 4 or Higher or an AP Scholar	Involvement in 3 or more activities	Holds officer/captain position in any school activity/organization and fewer than 3 behavior incidences.
2	Top 11-20% of Graduating Class	ACT >60%tile or SAT > 60%tile or 2 AP Exams Score 4 or Higher	State Qualifier/Competitor and involvement in 1 additional activity	More than just a passive member of any school activity/organization and fewer than 3 behavior incidences.
1	Top 21-25% of Graduating Class	ACT >50%tile or SAT > 50%tile or 1 AP Exam Score 4 or Higher	Involvement in 2 or more activities	More than just a passive member of any school activity/organization and fewer than 4 behavior incidences.

- Any member of the senior class with a score of 16 or higher and at least one 5 will be recognized on the Wall of Distinction.
- Student must have attended Benson High School for the last 4 semesters or score an 18 or higher.
- If more than one score in a column applies, the higher of the two scores will be applied to the overall score.

## Attendance Procedures

**Please call the attendance office at 531-299-8009 if your student will be absent from school.**

Regular attendance is directly related to school success and is required of Benson High School Magnet students. Our goal is to encourage students to attend a maximum number of days each year. Students attending Benson High are made aware of the importance of regular attendance and the consequences of poor attendance.

**On return to school after an absence, students will not need a note if a parent or guardian previously called to report the absence. Students whose parents did not call the school must bring a note from a parent or guardian stating the reason for the absence with a phone number at which the parent can be contacted during the school day.**

If an absence of several days is anticipated, the parent or guardian should notify the Attendance Office **in writing** at least two days in advance of the absence. This allows the student and his or her teachers to plan for make-up work in advance.

Students needing to be excused during the school day for a non-medical reason must bring a note from a parent or a guardian to the attendance office before school begins. A call will be made to the parent to verify the need to leave early. The student must sign out from the attendance office before leaving school.

Students needing to be excused for medical reasons must bring a note from a parent or guardian to the nurse before school begins. The nurse will call a parent to verify the appointment. The student must sign out from the attendance office before leaving school.

Only legal guardians and/or parents may sign a student out of school, unless otherwise specified as "authorized to pick up" in Infinite Campus. Parents and guardians who have not made advance arrangements must come into the school to sign a student out. Parents/Guardians will be asked for photo ID at this time for verification purposes. Students will not be released solely on the basis of a phone call to the office or nurse.

Students who are absent, whether excused or not, are expected to do daily assignments.



## Block Scheduling

Benson High School Magnet has an A/B alternating block schedule. Students take four classes each day, plus a homeroom. There are no study halls.

**Benson High School • Regular Bell Schedule 2021 - 2022**

<b>Block 0</b>	<b>6:55-7:35</b>
<b>Block 1</b>	<b>7:40-9:09</b>
<b>Block 2 (Advisement)</b>	<b>9:09-9:43</b>
<b>Block 3</b>	<b>9:47-11:16</b>
<b>Block 4 (Lunch)</b>	<b>11:20-1:32</b> - First lunch – 11:20-11:50 - Second lunch – 11:54-12:24 - Third lunch – 12:28-12:58 - Fourth lunch – 1:02-1:32
<b>Block 5</b>	<b>1:36-3:05</b>
<b>Extended Learning Opportunities</b>	<b>3:15-5:00</b>

## Tardy To School and To Class

Students are expected to be present and on time to all of their classes on a daily basis. We see this as a skill they will need for the rest of their lives and consider it to be very important.

### **Benson High Magnet School Tardy Management:**

Tardy 1-4 – Teacher handles – calls home & administers a consequence

Tardy 5 – Teacher refers to administration

Tardy 6-9 – Teacher handles – calls home & administers a consequence

Tardy 10 – Teacher refers to administration

## Lockers and Personal Possessions

All lockers are the property of the Omaha Public Schools and may be searched at any time an administrator feels it necessary.

All students are assigned a hall locker for the protection of their personal belongings. The locker is safe and secure only if the door is completely closed and the dial spun or cleared. The lock combination must be kept in confidence. **The school cannot accept responsibility for lost or stolen items.** Students are not to change lockers after assignments have been made in the fall, share their combination with anyone or keep their belongings in another student's locker.

Students enrolled in Physical Education classes will be issued their own individual lockers in the locker room. Students will be expected to store their backpacks/bookbags in their PE lockers. These items are not allowed in the gym or weight room.

## ***Transportation***

### **Buses and Vans**

The Omaha Public Schools provides transportation to Benson for students who qualify. All buses and vans leave promptly at 3:15 p.m. Students are expected to board buses and vans promptly at dismissal. Buses and vans will not be held for students who fail to board by 3:15 pm. ***Transportation to school is a privilege, not a right. All rules and regulations of the Omaha Public Schools and Benson High School Magnet apply to students on buses and vans.*** All students must respect the driver and other riders to ensure a safe ride for all students. Students who fail to meet all expectations and follow all rules may be denied transportation.

## **Student Parking**

1. Parking is strictly limited to the student parking area (north lot and Gallagher). The south and east lots are solely for staff.
2. To facilitate identification, automobiles are to be parked front end in first, one car per stall.
3. All students must be licensed and covered by insurance. The school is not responsible for the automobile or its contents.
4. There is to be no loitering in the parking lot (north lot and Gallagher). **The parking lot is off limits during the school day.**
5. There will be no speeding, over 5 miles per hour, or any form of reckless driving on the school grounds. Violators may be ticketed or banned from the lot.
6. Student vehicles may be subject to search if there are reasonable grounds to believe that drugs, alcohol, stolen property or other contraband might be present in that vehicle.
7. Parking regulations are strictly enforced. It is considered a privilege to park on school grounds. Suspension of parking privileges, tickets, towing of vehicles and/or suspension from school may occur when violations of these regulations occur.
8. All parking regulations also apply to the Gallagher Park lot.
9. Students ARE NOT ALLOWED to park in visitor parking stalls.

## ***Technology and Communication***

### **Technology and Email**

Students will be instructed in proper use as well as ethics and safety for use of modern day technology. All rules, policies and procedures outlined by the Omaha Public Schools will be strictly enforced to ensure that all students have safe, reliable access to the schools' technology.

All students will be issued a school email account through Office365. Careful attention will be paid to appropriate use of email as a professional means of communication. All rules, policies and procedures outlined by the Omaha Public Schools in their "Behavior Rules for Students Using School Computers and Networks" will be enforced for use both inside and outside of school.

### **Parent Communication**

Parents are encouraged to sign up for access to the online Parent Portal offered by OPS if they have not already done so. This access will be available wherever an Internet connection is located. Parental monitoring of assignments, grades and attendance is strongly encouraged. If there is any question about your child's academic progress, the parent is strongly encouraged to call or e-mail the teacher. All teachers' telephone numbers and e-mail addresses can be found on the Benson website. If a parent is not satisfied with the communication with a teacher, the parent is strongly encouraged to call the child's administrator. There is no such thing as too much communication when working to encourage, monitor and improve a student's academic progress. Students, parents and Benson staff members all share in the responsibility of keeping lines of communication open and productive.

## ***Code of Conduct, Guidelines and Expected Behaviors***

### **Code of Conduct**

The rules governing student behavior at Benson High School Magnet have their roots in the simple code of courteous and considerate behavior toward one another. Our goal is to help develop self-discipline and a strong sense of responsibility and respect for self and others. All rules in the white and buff pages apply to all areas of the school and grounds, including adjacent property such as Gallagher Park. Standards of conduct which staff members expect of all students:

1. Always follow the directions of any staff member. Defiance and disrespect to any staff member will result in disciplinary action.

2. All students are required to wear their student ID during school hours. Always give your full name when asked. Students who refuse to give their name at the request of a staff member will receive disciplinary consequences.
3. Always report to the office when directed.
4. Attend all assigned classes unless officially excused. Students must be where they are assigned at all times. All students are expected to remain in class. Any student that walks out of class because of a security call will be referred to administration. Students in this situation are expected to wait for security escort.
5. Do not bring large amounts of money or any personal items of great value to school. The school cannot be responsible for lost and stolen items. Do not expect staff to conduct searches for lost or stolen personal items.
6. All headgear and sunglasses for male & female students must be removed and put out of sight upon entry into the building and remain off until the end of the day. Students who do not remove head coverings will have them confiscated by administration until the end of the day. Headgear includes hoods attached to sweatshirts, shower caps, bonnets, do-rags, bandanas, stocking caps.
7. Students must remain in authorized areas only. Unauthorized areas include the gym or locker room at any times other than a student's class block, closed hallways before or after school, during lunchtime, any classroom where the student does not have a class, and the outside grounds or parking lot during the school day.
8. The building opens at 7:10 a.m. Students are not allowed inside until 7:10 a.m. Please plan rides accordingly.
9. Students may access the cafeteria, library or Commons ONLY until 7:30 a.m. All other areas of the building including stairwells are closed until 7:30 a.m. Students may go to their lockers and begin reporting to class at 7:30 a.m.
10. Students must exit the building at dismissal. All students must be under the direct supervision of an adult by 3:15 p.m. All other students, regardless of weather, will be expected to leave the building. Loitering after 3:15p.m. will result in disciplinary actions.
11. Although rare, fights and altercations can be extremely disruptive. Students are expected to avoid these situations. Students who contribute to the disruption by running to the fight, blocking adult access to the combatants, cheering or encouraging the behavior, or in any other way adding to the disruption will face disciplinary consequences that may include out-of-school suspension.

Any other inappropriate behaviors not specified in the white or buff pages of the handbook will be handled on an individual basis with disciplinary action determined by the appropriate administrator. All rules and regulations are enforced at all school- related activities regardless of where they are held. They are also in effect in all buses and vans. Repeated violations may result in an out-of- school suspension.

## **Student Success Center**

The Student Success Center (SCC) is an in-school suspension room where students are assigned to learn behaviors that will help them be successful both socially and academically in school. Students will have a limited time to work on their classroom assignments. Instead, the SSC facilitator will guide students through a day of activities targeting the behaviors which have caused the student to be assigned to the center.

Students may be assigned to the Student Success Center for a number of different Code of Conduct violations including, but not limited to the following:

- Continued excessive tardiness to class
- Failure to serve suspension after school (SAS)
- Continued classroom disruption
- Continued truancy/skipping class
- Disrespectful behavior
- Excessive vulgarity/profanity
- Refusal to identify self
- Continued dress code violations
- Insubordination

Students needing to be removed from SSC could face an out-of-school suspension.

## Suspension After School (SAS)

SAS is a detention that begins at 3:15 and ends at 5:15. SAS may be assigned for a number of different Code of Conduct violations including, but not limited to the following:

- Classroom disruption
- Truancy/Skipping class
- Excessive tardiness to class
- In unauthorized area of the building
- Loitering on school grounds after school
- Sleeping in class
- Vulgarity/profanity
- Failure to cooperate with staff member
- Leaving class without permission
- Misuse of electronic devices
- Inappropriate cafeteria behavior

SAS is held in room 214. Students are expected to bring homework to complete during this time. Sleeping will not be tolerated. Students who have to be removed from SAS may receive harsher disciplinary action.

## Guidelines For Appropriate Dress In School

School is a place for serious work and study. Certain types of fashion and dress are not appropriate for school. All students are expected to dress appropriately. It is important that students develop appropriate habits of dress for school that will prepare them for the world of work. What is considered appropriate dress for school is at the discretion of Benson High School Magnet staff and administration. **Students who dress inappropriately must change or will be sent home to retrieve appropriate clothing.**

1. Clothing must not distract or disrupt the learning atmosphere within the school. Clothing which advertises and/or displays graphics of alcohol, drugs, gambling, or sexual content are prohibited. Provocative clothing, sagging pants, and pajamas are not acceptable.
2. Overcoats and jackets should not to be worn during the school day if at all possible. These items should be kept in a student's locker during the day.
3. Hats, sweat bands, headscarves, hoods from a sweatshirt or other head coverings of any kind will not be allowed. Bandanas are not allowed. Hats and bandanas should be out of sight while inside the building. If a student is asked more than once in a day to remove a head covering, that article of "clothing" will be taken by administration and kept until the end of the day.
4. Sunglasses are not allowed. Gloves or blankets are not to be worn in school.
5. Sleeveless muscle shirts and fishnet or see-through shirts are not acceptable. Spaghetti straps are not allowed.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times. Slippers and house shoes are not permitted.
7. Midriff, back, both shoulders and cleavage must be covered.
8. Undergarments cannot be visible and must be covered.
9. **Any clothing that draws undue attention to a student and which is disruptive to the school environment is not acceptable. This includes clothing that might be associated with gangs and excessive display of cleavage.**
10. Face paint is not allowed. Students must remove face paint while at school.

The Board of Education has determined that studded jewelry such as bracelets and necklaces could be used as weapons. The same is true of heavier chains such as chains attached to wallets, dog chokers, and similar items. Chains over six inches are prohibited. These items will be treated as weapons if worn or



brought to school. The result could be expulsion, so please do not bring these items to school.

## Hall Passes

Only official hall passes that include name, time, date and a staff signature will be honored. Student passes are used when a student needs to be excused from class to go elsewhere in the building. Students should not be in the halls during class time without a valid pass signed by a teacher or an administrator. Passes should be visible at all times. **Any staff member may ask to see a hall pass. Failure to cooperate will result in disciplinary action.**

**NO STUDENT will be given a pass during the first ten minutes and last ten minutes of each class block. No passes will be issued during 4th block.**

## Library Media Center

Benson High School's Library Media Center, located on the first floor of the building, contains more than 15,000 print and non-print resources and subscribes to more than 15 magazines. Not only are there reference works to be used in supplementing textbooks, but there are also many books of fiction, travel, biography, and other fields. All books may be checked out with the exception of some reference books. Books may be kept for varying periods of time. Students should note the date due slip inside the front or back cover of the book. Students should remember that the date due is stamped when the book is checked out to them and be sure to return books on or before the day they are due. Books may be renewed as needed. Fines of five cents a day are charged for books that are overdue with a maximum of \$2.00. When a book is lost, the student is required to pay the cost of the book. If the book is found during the current school year, the money will be refunded, less a \$2.00 overdue fine. Any unpaid library fines will be placed on the fine list. Reference and reserve materials are not available for checkout.





# BUNNY CODE



	Respect	Responsibility	Safe
<b>Classroom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use professional language</li> <li>• Follow classroom procedures</li> <li>• Care for school property</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be on time to class</li> <li>• Be prepared with materials</li> <li>• Ask teacher for help</li> <li>• Complete all assignments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep hands and feet to yourself</li> <li>• Use materials appropriately</li> </ul>
<b>Cafeteria/Commons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start at the back of line and wait patiently</li> <li>• Put all trash in bins</li> <li>• Clean up after self</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep account current</li> <li>• Place order quickly</li> <li>• Attend assigned lunch only</li> <li>• Use food and silverware as intended</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find a seat quickly and remain seated until the bell</li> <li>• Keep hands and feet to yourself</li> <li>• Have ID visible when requesting to leave</li> <li>• Remove hats and hoods</li> </ul>
<b>Hallway</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go directly to your destination</li> <li>• Avoid interrupting classrooms during learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a hallway pass at all times</li> <li>• Have your ID/lanyard visible</li> <li>• Be in assigned room when the bell rings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move with order and purpose to your destination</li> <li>• Stay to the right</li> <li>• Avoid entering other classrooms</li> </ul>
<b>Restroom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use facility quickly and quietly</li> <li>• Return to class promptly</li> <li>• Respect the privacy of others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean up after yourself</li> <li>• Practice responsible hygiene</li> <li>• Care for bathroom environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report problems to staff</li> <li>• Remain in own stall</li> </ul>
<b>Building Wide</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the dress code</li> <li>• Use professional language with respectful volume</li> <li>• Comply with staff requests</li> <li>• Show respect to all staff, peers, and visitors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend school each day</li> <li>• Attend all classes</li> <li>• Take care of property</li> <li>• Be on time</li> <li>• Come to school with a willingness to achieve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notify adults of unsafe conditions</li> <li>• Use school property as intended</li> <li>• Hats and hoods removed when in building</li> <li>• Have school ID visible</li> </ul>

## **Omaha Public Schools Parent and Family Engagement Policy**

Omaha Public Schools intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, *Section 1116(a -f) ESSA, (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.*

### **In General**

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child's school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.
- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.
- Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.
- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

### **Parent Right To Know Clause**

At the beginning of the school year, any District that accepts Title I, Part A funding must notify parents that they can request information regarding their child's teacher and his/her qualifications, including certification and endorsements. Parents can also request information about paraprofessionals working with their children.

**There's no place like Benson**  
**Title I School Parent Involvement Policy**  
**Benson High Magnet School**  
**Omaha Public Schools**

Benson High School Magnet intends to follow the parental policy guidelines that meet the ESEA/NCLB requirements which are distributed to parents and are made available to the community.

1. Parents are involved in the planning, review, and improvements of the school's Parental Involvement Policy through:
  - Parent-Teacher Conferences
  - District Activities
  - Monthly and regularly scheduled parent meetings
2. Annual meetings are held to inform parents of the school's participation in the Title I program and Compact Review.
3. Parent meetings are held at different times throughout the day and week, including but not limited to:
  - Open House Night
  - Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Parent Meetings during the school day and evenings
  - Other after school hour events to be announced as they are scheduled
4. Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent involvement activities:
  - Scheduled Parent meetings
  - Materials to support parent needs to improve knowledge of support needed in reading and math programs
5. Parents are involved in the planning, review, and improvements to the school's Title I program via the Climate Survey; Title I Parent Satisfaction survey, annual parent meetings, scheduled parent meetings, and school newsletters.
6. The parents are involved in the joint development of the School Wide plan through feedback and collaboration on the School Improvement Plan for 2020-2021 and in the Fall 2021 Title I School Compact Review meeting.
7. Parents and guardians receive timely information about the Title I program through the following ways:
  - School newsletters
  - Parent-Teacher Conferences
  - Title I School Compact
  - School / District website
  - School messenger (email, auto-dialer)
8. Parents and guardians receive a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessments and how to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
  - School newsletters
  - MAP / Pre-ACT assessment reports
  - AP Parent meetings / Academy Parent Meetings / Title I Parent Meetings / Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Title I School Compact
  - School / District website



9. The school will provide assistance to parents with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet.
  - Open House
  - Newsletters / Bunny News
  - Informational Meetings at Fall and Spring Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Monthly and regularly scheduled parent meetings
10. The school provides parents with opportunities for scheduled meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate in decisions relating to the education of their children.
  - Parent Teacher Conferences
  - Open House
  - Academy Open House and Academy Nights
  - Scheduled parent meetings - Family Engagement Nights
11. A school-parent compact was jointly developed with parents; it outlines how parents, the entire school staff and students share in the responsibility for improved student achievement.
  - Newsletters
  - School wide policy and procedures
  - School Improvement Plan
  - Title I school compact
  - District Action Plan
12. The school provides materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement.
  - Scheduled Parent Meetings
  - Opportunities to give feedback on the School Improvement Plan
  - Opportunities to be members of Career Academy Advisory Boards
  - Annual Title I school compact review

# Omaha Public Schools 2021-2022 Calendar

Omaha Public Schools  
Board of Education



Shavonna L. Holman, *President*  
Jane Erdenberger, *Vice President*  
Tracy Casady, Spencer Head, Kimara Z. Snipes, Marque A. Snow  
Nancy Kratky, Nick Thielen  
Ricky Smith  
Cheryl J. Logan, *Superintendent*

Next Level Learning ----- June 2-30 & July 1, 6-23  
Independence Day ----- July 5

## First Semester 2021-2022 Parent/Teacher Conferences

<b>Senior High Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> Week of October 4	<b>Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> Week of October 11	<b>Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> Week of October 18
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New Teacher Days ----- August 3-6  
Building Planning – Inservice/Teacher Work Days ----- August 9-13

### Staggered School Start

- August 16 – Elementary Student Start Day
- August 16 – Secondary Teacher Work Day / no secondary students
- August 17 – Entry Level Middle and Senior High Student Start Day
- August 18 – All Other Middle and Senior High Student Start Day
- August 19 – Early Childhood Classes Start
- Labor Day ----- September 6
- Curriculum Day ----- October 1  
No school for all students
- Senior High Conferences ----- October 7  
No school for high school students
- Senior High Teacher Planning Day ----- October 8  
No school for high school students
- Elementary Teacher Team Planning Day ----- October 8  
No school for elementary school students
- First Quarter Ends ----- October 8
- Second Quarter Begins ----- October 11
- Middle School Conferences ----- October 14  
No school for middle school students
- Middle School Teacher Planning Day ----- October 15  
No school for middle school students
- Elementary Teacher Planning Day/Conferences ----- October 21  
No school for elementary students
- Elementary Teacher Planning Day ----- October 22  
No school for elementary students
- Thanksgiving Recess ----- November 22-26
- Second Quarter Ends ----- December 17
- Winter Recess ----- December 20-January 3

## Second Semester 2021-2022 Parent/Teacher Conferences

<b>Senior High Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> Week of February 14	<b>Middle School Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> Week of February 22	<b>Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences</b> Week of February 28
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- Teacher Planning/Professional Development Day ----- January 4  
No school for all students
- Third Quarter Begins ----- January 5
- Martin Luther King Day ----- January 17
- Senior High Conferences ----- February 17  
No school for high school students
- Senior High Teacher Planning Day ----- February 18  
No school for high school students
- Presidents' Day ----- February 21
- Middle School Conferences ----- February 24  
No school for middle school students
- Middle School Teacher Planning Day ----- February 25  
No school for middle school students
- Elementary Teacher Planning Day/Conferences ----- March 3  
No school for elementary students
- Elementary Teacher Planning Day ----- March 4  
No school for elementary students
- Third Quarter Ends ----- March 4
- Fourth Quarter Begins ----- March 7
- Spring Recess ----- March 14-18
- Professional Development ----- April 15  
No school for all students
- Fourth Quarter Ends - Last student day ----- May 27
- Memorial Day ----- May 30
- Professional Development/Teacher Planning Days ----- May 31-June 1
- Next Level Learning ----- June 8-30 & July 1, 6-22
- Independence Day ----- July 4-5

June 2021							January 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
			1	2	3	4	5							1		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
27	28	29	30				23	24	25	26	27	28	29			
							30	31								
July 2021							February 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
				1	2	3				1	2	3	4	5		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28								
August 2021							March 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26			
29	30	31					27	28	29	30	31					
September 2021							April 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
October 2021							May 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31							
31																
November 2021							June 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
						1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25			
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30					
December 2021							July 2022									
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			
			1	2	3	4						1	2			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23			
26	27	28	29	30	31		24	25	26	27	28	29	30			
							31									

Elementary	8:50 a.m. to 4:05 p.m.	At Kennedy, Lewis & Clark, Wakonda and Wilson — check with the school regarding start & end times.
Middle School	7:40 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.	
High School	7:40 a.m. to 3:05 p.m.	

Omaha Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy), marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, genetic information, gender identity, gender expression, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation or economic status in its programs, activities and employment and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individual has been designated to accept allegations regarding non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-9822). The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Equity and Diversity, 3215 Cuming Street, Omaha, NE 68131 (531-299-0307).

