

Bryant Woods Elementary School

PROFILE

5450 Blue Heron Lane • Columbia, MD 21044 • 410-313-6859 • bwes.hcpss.org/



The vision of Bryant Woods Elementary School is to have a culture of opportunity where excellence is achieved for every student, no matter where they are in their educational journey. With this vision in mind, staff are committed to showing care, listening, connecting/communicating with families, continuously learning, and leading with the lens of equity.

BWES staff show care through building strong, positive relationships with students, parents, guardians and community members. The PBIS (Positive Behavioral Incentives and Supports) program at BWES incorporates restorative practices and awareness of the social emotional needs of students. Staff at BWES believe that a child's first teacher is their parent/guardian; therefore, connecting and communicating with families is a priority. Feedback from all stakeholders is regularly solicited in order to create a well-rounded learning experience for students. The staff at BWES also work to engage and assist families by linking them with appropriate resources in and outside of the school.

Students are expected to be lifelong learners and staff model this through regularly engaging in job-embedded professional learning opportunities. Teachers lead with equity and believe that no matter what a student's background, language, race, economic profile, gender, learning capability, disability or family history, each student has the opportunity to get the support and resources they need to achieve their educational goals.

Students at BWES can proudly recite the Bear Chant each morning as a reminder of what they are capable of: *"I am somebody, I was somebody when I came, and I will be a better somebody when I leave. I am powerful, I am strong, and I deserve the education that I get here. I have things to do, people to impress, places to go, I am a scholar, go ahead and watch me grow!"*

Fast Facts

Facility opened: 1968

Additions/Renovations
1983, 1984 (A), 2004 (R), 2007 (R)

School Capacity: 289
(This does not include additional capacity provided by 6 portable classrooms.)

Total Enrollment (PreK–5): 359
Official count 9/30/23

Ethnicity FY24

American Indian/Alaskan	≤5.0%
Asian	5.9%
Black/African American	49.6%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	≤5.0%
Hispanic/Latino	13.1%
White	21.5%
Two or more races	9.8%

Students Receiving Special Services FY23

Free/Reduced Meals	55.3%
English Learners	6.8%
Special Education	15.3%

Title I School

Administrators:
Danielle R. Shanks, Principal
Jason Morton-Ortega, Assistant Principal

- Accomplishments**
- Certified Maryland Green School
 - PBIS Gold Ribbon School
 - Awarded 2nd Place in the MESA Competition, 2018
 - Girls on the Run participating school, 2012–present
 - Howard County Council of Elders Recognition

Updated December 2023

Academic Achievement

BWES Performance on State Tests*		
Measure	2022 Results	2023 Results
Percent Proficient English Language Arts	39.9%	46.3%
Percent Proficient Mathematics	29.7%	33.3%
Percent Proficient Science	37.2%	33.9%

State accountability information can be accessed at <https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/>

Special Programs

- Alternative Education Program
- Blessings in a Backpack
- Bridges Over Wilde Lake Grant
– After school and summer school academic and enrichment programs.
- Columbia Association Before and After Care
- Community Eligibility Program
- Days of Taste Farm to Table Program
- Full Day Pre-Kindergarten
- Full Time Black Student Achievement Liaison
- Full-time Reading and Math Coaches
- Full-time Title I Family Involvement Contact
- Free Bikes 4Kids
- Gifted and Talented Programs
- Girls On The Run
- Girls That Code
- Howard County Children's Chorus
- Howard County GT Sinfonia
- Howard County Honors Band
- Howard County Library Battle of the Books Competition
- Howard County Library Rube Goldberg Competition
- Howard County Spelling Bee
- Math Olympiad
- Math Tutoring Program
- MESA (Mathematics, Engineering, Science, Achievement)
- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports)
- Professional Teacher Development School
- PTA After-school Enrichment Programs
- School Based Mental Health Service Provider from The Children's Guild
- Simulated Congressional Hearing
- Title I Math and Reading Evening Workshops

Educational Partnerships

- BJ's Wholesale Club
- Blessings in a Backpack
- Columbia Association
- Dreams & Visions Turned Reality
- Free Bikes 4 Kidz Maryland
- Howard Community College, Arts and Humanities Division
- Howard County Food Bank, Community Action Council
- Howard County Library, Central Branch
- HowGirlsCode
- Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
- Kiwanis Club of Ellicott City
- Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education, Green Schools Program
- Maryland MESA
- Open Doors Food Pantry,
- Mt. Zion United Methodist Church
- Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Zeta Alpha Sigma Alumni Chapter
- Prepare for Success, Community Action Council of Howard County
- Rack Room Shoes
- Rotary Club of Columbia Town Center
- St. John United Church
- TasteWise Kids
- The Birthday Books Project
- The Kindness Pantry