

Benjamin Franklin Elementary – Middle School

Uniontown Area School District

Mrs. Rachel Rollings, Principal

351 Morgantown Street
Uniontown, Pa 15401

Phone: 724-439-5020

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Dear Benjamin Franklin Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to the 2021-2022 school year! My name is Rachel Rollings and I am thrilled to be the new principal at Benjamin Franklin. Mrs. Howard has relocated but I have worked closely with her over the last couple weeks to ensure the transition is as smooth as possible. She has shared many wonderful things with me about Benjamin Franklin and I am excited to start meeting students.

Beginning of the Year Information

- **Homerooms and bus routes/times** will be posted after 3:00p.m. on Friday, August 27th outside doors of the Benjamin Franklin entrance with pillars.
- **Save the Date:** Open House will be held on September 2nd from 4:00-6:00 p.m. This will be an opportunity for families to meet their child's teacher and get a feel for the classroom. It is a great way to establish a relationship with the teacher and be involved in your child's education.

Arrival/Dismissal

Benjamin Franklin Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Arrival Begins 7:20 Tardy 7:51

Dismissal 2:22

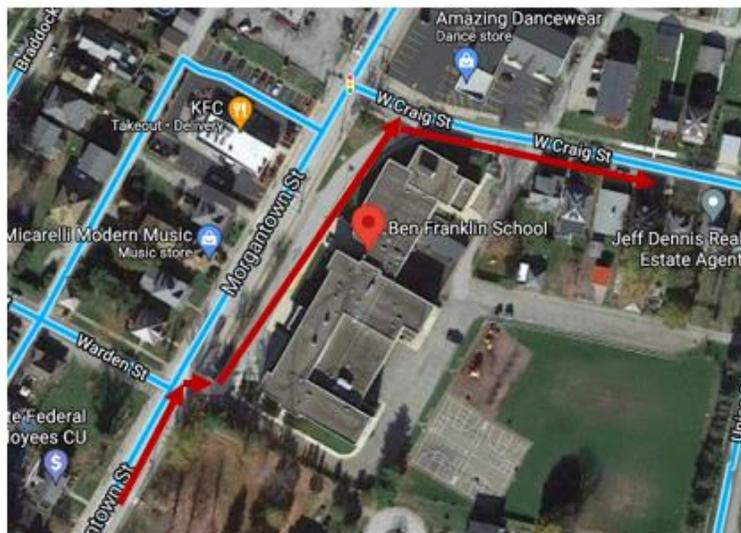
Benjamin Franklin Elementary School (Grades K-5)

Arrival Begins 8:10 Tardy 9:01

Dismissal 3:00

- Please screen your child at home for symptoms of illness each morning. A Home Screening Tool has been provided by the district and is linked at the bottom of this letter. If your child is exhibiting symptoms, please do not send your child to school.
- All students will enter the building through the entrance with the pillars.
- All students will pass through security screening. Middle School students' bags will be checked daily. Elementary School students' bags will be checked randomly.
- All morning car drop offs will enter via Morgantown Street for both Elementary and Middle School. Cars will then exit the driveway by making a RIGHT TURN onto Craig Street. The driveway in front of the school that runs parallel to Morgantown Street is ONE WAY so be sure to follow the traffic pattern. (See map below.) **Please note that there is a lot of road construction occurring on Morgantown Street and in the neighborhood around the school. Please plan accordingly while dropping off students.
- During dismissal Elementary School car pickups will exit the doors with the pillars. All other Elementary and Middle school students will exit the doors by the flagpole.

- A parent or guardian is required to be present at the bus stop at the end of the day for all Kindergarten and First Grade students- if not, the child will not be released from the bus and will be returned to Ben Franklin for pickup by the parent or guardian. We recommend arriving at the bus stop 10-15 minutes before the scheduled drop off time to ensure that you are there for your child.
- For safety and security purposes, there will be no early dismissals after 2:40p.m. as we are preparing at that time for regular dismissal.
- Students are not permitted to change buses (no bus notes). Please alert the office by 11:00a.m. if your child's mode of transportation home will change for that day from bus to car pickup/car pickup to bus. By alerting us we can ensure that your child is sent to the appropriate location for dismissal.
- If your child is absent from school, please send a written excuse either via hard copy with your child or via email to benfranklin.excuses@uasdraiders.org



General Procedures and Information

- Masks are optional for all students when inside the school building; however, masks are REQUIRED to be worn by all staff and students on district operated transportation (this is a federal requirement). Please ensure that your child has a mask to wear while riding the bus.
- Students must bring their fully charged iPads with them to school each day.
- A refillable water station is available for all students; therefore, please send your child to school with a refillable plastic water bottle. Any sugary sodas or open containers (iced coffee, etc.) will be confiscated upon arrival.
- Students will receive free breakfast upon arrival each day and will eat during homeroom.
- Students will receive free lunch each day. Students are permitted to pack a healthy lunch in a lunch box. Please adhere to our Health and Wellness Policy and refrain from sending your child to school with bags of chips, candy, sugary drinks, etc. If your child wants a snack in addition to his or her lunch, Smart Snacks can be purchased from our cafeteria during lunch periods.
- Students in Grades 6-8 will not utilize lockers and are permitted to carry their book bags from class to class. Due to our advancements in technology, the majority of textbooks are now available online through your child's iPad.
- Personal cell phones, tablets, smart watches, and/or any other non-district issued communication devices may not be used at any time during the instructional school day. If you choose to send your child to school with an electronic device, it must be turned off, secured, and kept out of sight. If a child

needs to call home, he or she must report to the Main Office and will be permitted to utilize the office phone during the instructional day.

Dress Code

If your child arrives to school in violation of our dress code, you will receive a phone call to bring a change of clothes/shoes:

- SHIRTS - No tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, and plunging necklines. All shirts must cover the complete shoulder, no openings in the back.
- SAYINGS - No sayings on any part of the clothing or body, which denotes, drugs, alcohol or ethnic intimidation or have a double meaning.
- HATS/HEAD COVERING - No hats or head coverings. If a student wears a hooded sweatshirt/jacket, the hood may not be worn inside the building.
- SHORTS / SKIRTS - No short shorts or mini-skirts. All must not be shorter than fingertip length. If your child is taller and has longer legs you may have to judge. Mid-thigh is a good length for student dress.
- FOOTWEAR - No flip flops, slides, or slippers. All shoes MUST have a strap or a back on the heel.
- BANDANAS OR CHAINS - No bandanas on head or in the pocket. No chain wallets.
- PANTS - Must not be drooping students must wear pants upon their waist. NO spandex, jeggings or any other form fitting pants or sweats, unless worn with a shirt that is fingertip length.

A packet of detailed information will be sent home with your child during the first week of school. Please take time to review the packet, complete the required paperwork, and return any signed forms back to the school as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please call Benjamin Franklin at 724-439-5020