

BCSD

Berea City School District

EXCELLENCE • INTEGRITY • PURPOSE

Serving Berea, Brook Park and Middleburg Heights

Welcome to our
School Board Meeting



Berea City School District Facilities

Administration Building

390 Fair Street • Berea, OH 44017
(216) 898-8300

Berea-Midpark High School

Grades 9-12
165 E. Bagley Rd. | Berea, OH 44017 | (216) 898-8900

Berea-Midpark Middle School

Grades 5-8
7000 Paula Dr. | Middleburg Heights, OH 44130 | (216) 676-8400

Big Creek Elementary School

Preschool - Grade 4
7247 Big Creek Pkwy. | Middleburg Heights, OH 44130 | (216) 898-8303

Brook Park Elementary School

Preschool - Grade 4
17001 Holland Rd. | Brook Park, OH 44142 | (216) 898-8307

Grindstone Elementary School

Preschool - Grade 4
191 Race St. | Berea, OH 44017 | (216) 898-8305

Snow School

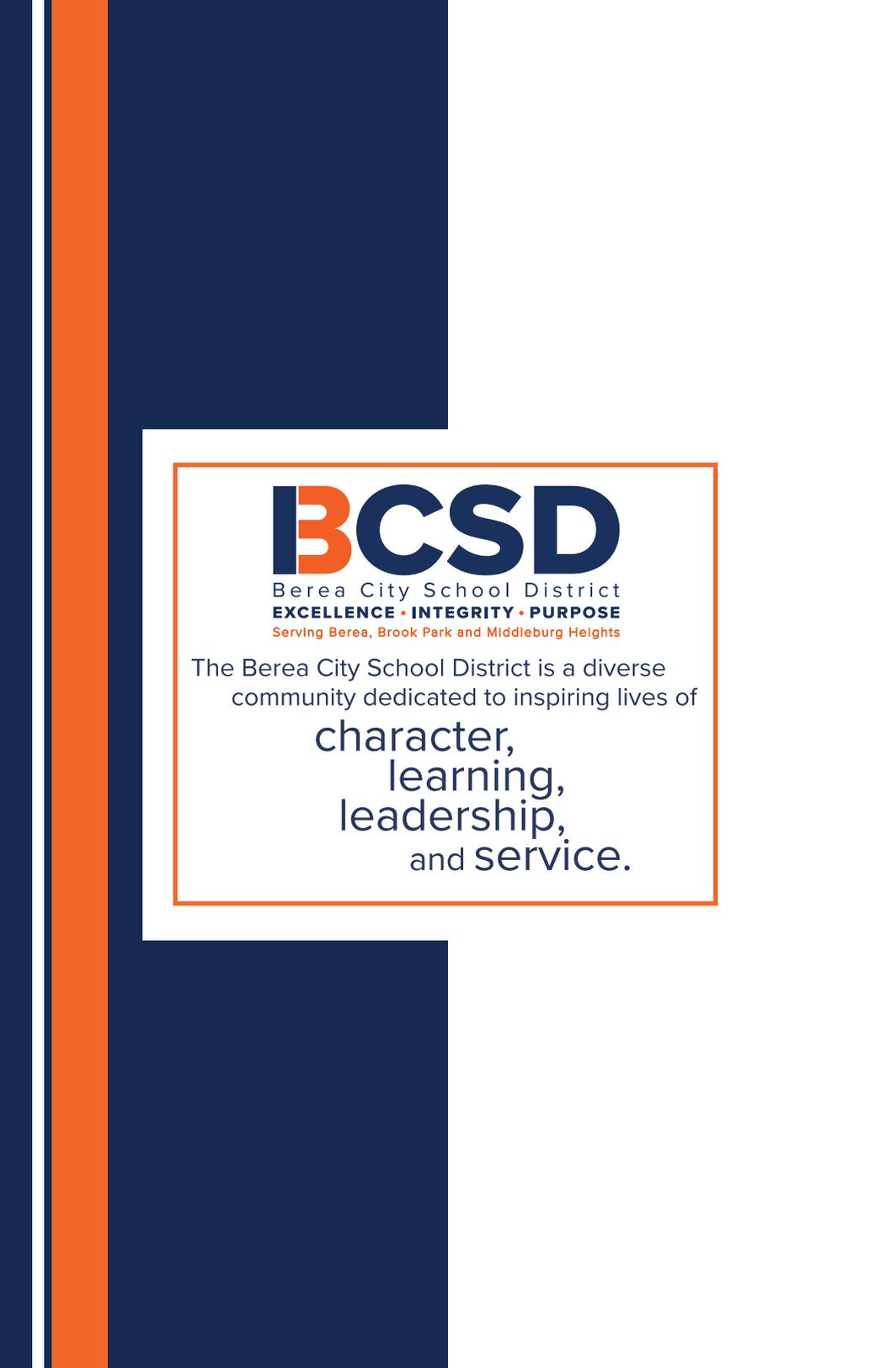
202 East Bagley Rd. | Berea, OH 44017 | (440) 260-8251

Maintenance Department

205 Riveredge Pkwy. | Berea, OH 44017 | (216) 898-8302

Transportation

235 Riveredge Pkwy. | Berea, OH 44017 | (216) 898-8301



BCSD

Berea City School District

EXCELLENCE • INTEGRITY • PURPOSE

Serving Berea, Brook Park and Middleburg Heights

The Berea City School District is a diverse
community dedicated to inspiring lives of

character,
learning,
leadership,
and service.



Agenda: Regular Meetings

1. Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Public Participation
5. Reports by Board of Education Representatives
6. Treasurer's Update
7. Other Items
8. Superintendent's Recommendations
9. Treasurer's Recommendations
10. Adjournment

Board Members

The Board of Education is composed of five residents elected to serve overlapping terms of four years. At the end of a term, a member may continue service to the community by being re-elected to the Board of another four-year term. State law does not limit the number of terms a member may serve. Voting for School Board positions usually takes place on Election Day, the Tuesday following the first Monday in November.

The Board members are: Mrs. Cori Farris, President; Mrs. Ana Chapman, Vice President; and members Mr. Rick Mack, Dr. Neal Postel, and Mrs. Heather Zirke.

Our Board of Education Members



Cori Farris, President

cfarris@bereaschools.org

Began Service:
January 1, 2016

Current Term Expires:

December 31, 2023

Cori and her husband Jay are residents of Middleburg Heights. They have two children, Benjamin (Midpark '13) and Olivia (Berea-Midpark '17). Ben graduated from Cleveland State University with degrees in Film/Digital Media and Communication. Olivia graduated from Kent State University, majoring in Aeronautics and Mathematics and is currently commissioned in the United States Air Force.

Cori is active in the community having served on the boards of the Middleburg Heights Food Pantry and is currently a long-serving board member of the Friends of the Middleburg Heights Library and Cleveland Archery Club, the oldest archery club in the United States. She also served nearly 10 years on the Middleburg Heights Planning Commission. She was heavily involved in the passage of the 2016 bond issue which allowed for the construction of Brook Park Elementary and Berea-Midpark High School and is currently a Trustee of the Berea Schools Education Foundation. She has served on PTA Boards and the district's Financial Oversight Committee.

Her interests include reading, music and television, and spending time with her family, which includes her Great Dane, Eddie.



Ana Chapman, Vice President

achapman@bereaschools.org

Began Service:
January 1, 2014

Current Term Expires:

December 31, 2025

Ana and her husband John (BHS '89), a music teacher in the BCSD, live in Berea. They have three children: Julia (BMHS '17) is a graduate of Michigan State University and is a first grade teacher in Michigan, Jack (BMHS '19) is a senior at Ohio State majoring in History, and Carter is a junior at BMHS.

As a volunteer in the BCSD schools since 2004, the community, and the Ohio PTA, she's learned the importance of advocating for children and giving selflessly. Her volunteer positions include serving as a trustee of the Education Foundation, serving on the Committee for Good Schools, chairing several bond issue and levy campaigns, working for the athletic boosters, band boosters, and PTAs at Parknoll, Roehm, Grindstone and PTA Council. She served as president of the Ohio PTA from 2019-2021.

She was honored by the White House as a "Champion of Change" for her PTA work in 2012. She has presented workshops at the local, state, and national level for school board and PTA on topics such as labor relations, communication, social media, leadership, and family engagement. She has earned Master Board Member recognition and the Award of Achievement from the Ohio School Boards Association.

Ana holds a Master of Education from Cleveland State University and Bachelor of Music from the University of Miami (FL), and is in her twenty-ninth year of teaching elementary music in the Beachwood City Schools.

Ana is Cuban-American, grew up in Miami, Florida, a first generation American and first generation to attend college, and is fluent in Spanish.



Rick Mack

rmack@bereaschools.org

Began Service:

Appointed March 7, 2022

Current Term Expires:

December 31, 2023

Rick and his wife, Shelley, live in Berea. Rick is a retired BCSD Intervention Specialist. Shelley is a Teacher of the Visually Impaired, providing services in Medina County and working for the AT&AEM Center in Columbus. They have two adult married children and two toddler granddaughters.

During Rick's 30+ years in the District, he taught in each community and at every level. The majority of his career was spent at Midpark HS, where he ended his teaching career as the Special Needs Curriculum Leader and the Head Girls and Boys Coach for both Cross-Country and Track. After retiring from teaching, he continued to coach until 2018.

Rick has been an active volunteer in many different groups over the years, including being an AFS Host parent, a community RecLeague and CYO coach, former Kiwanian, and founder of the Berea-Midpark Solidarity Group. The latter group included students and staff who traveled to El Salvador for seven consecutive summers to build homes and develop solidarity with the people of San Jose Villanueva, ES. Rick continues to mentor former athletes as they move into coaching and other ventures.



Neal Postel

npostel@bereaschools.org

Began Service:

January 1, 2012

Current Term Expires:

December 31, 2023

Neal and his wife Leslie, a supervisor of student teachers at Baldwin Wallace University, live in Middleburg Heights. They have two sons, Ken (Midpark 2012) and Drew (Berea-Midpark 2016). Ken is studying Industrial and Systems Engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology. Drew is involved in many of the music programs at Berea-Midpark High School.

Neal and Leslie are both graduates of the Berea City School District, having graduated from Midpark High School in the early 80s. Neal graduated from Ohio State University (1984, 1988), and is currently a dentist, with his practice located in Middleburg Heights. He is active in the community as a member of Kiwanis and Chamber of Commerce in Middleburg Heights. Neal enjoys attending his children's activities, reading, and bicycling.



Heather Zirke

hzirke@bereaschools.org

Began Service:

January 1, 2022

Current Term Expires:

December 31, 2025

Heather and her husband Chris live in Berea with daughter Aurelia (class of 2025) and son Kip (class of 2027). Heather is the past president of Grindstone Elementary and Berea-Midpark Middle School PTAs. She has served as a National PTA Equity Fellow and is currently a member of the National PTA Family Engagement Committee. Heather has been awarded the Berea PTA Council

Helping Hands Award, the district's Be A Titan Award and in 2020 was named Parent of the Year by the Ohio Middle Level Association.

Heather has been engaged in the practice of law since 2002. She is currently the Principal of the Zirke Law Firm providing ethics advice and counsel to lawyers and law firms across Ohio. Heather previously served as Bar Counsel and General Counsel for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association and as an Assistant Prosecutor for the City of Cleveland.

Heather enjoys traveling with her family, reading, live music and art.



Board Meetings

The Board of Education is a decision-making group. The public may express sentiments to assist the members in making decisions, but time spent answering routine questions or criticisms takes time from the Board's business meeting. Questions about operation of the schools should be directed to your child's teacher or the administrator of the school. Experience has shown this is the best procedure.

Items on the agenda normally include reports from the Board and/or from the Superintendent or his/her staff. These reports do not require formal Board action, but they are relevant to the operation of the schools.

Action items on the agenda require formal action by the Board. These items are presented to the Board in motions by Board members, or in recommendations by the Superintendent.

Routine business - For efficiency of operation, the Board condenses items of routine business into lists or schedules, and presents these for action as consent agenda items.

Board members receive their meeting agendas on the Wednesday preceding the meeting. This provides the opportunity for Board members to review all agenda items and associated exhibits well before considering action.

Board Actions

The Board of Education will generally meet for a regular meeting on the first Monday of each month during the school year, except June, July, August, and September. Often the first meeting of the month is held at a school building. There will be one meeting a month during July and August. June and September meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month. At these meetings on the first Monday of each month, Board members hear reports and discuss specific topics presented by the administration or by the Board members. No action is taken at these meetings unless the topic is specifically listed in the meeting agenda.

Ordinarily, the Board of Education meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month except June, September, and November. Exceptions to these regular meeting dates will be made in advance, and they will be published in the local newspaper and on our website. Also, the dates will be posted at the Fair Street entrance to the Administration Building, 390 Fair Street, Berea, where the meetings are held in Staff Room 1.

If a special meeting is called by the Board of Education, public notice will be given in advance of the meeting.

Conduct and Remarks Out Of Order

Undue interruptions or other interference with the orderly conduct of Board of Education business cannot be allowed. Defamatory or abusive remarks are always out of order. The presiding officer may terminate the speaker's privilege of address if, after being called to order, improper conduct or remarks persist.

Speakers are asked to refrain from verbal criticisms of individual employees of the school system. Any complaint related to a specific individual should be put in writing and submitted to the Superintendent or Board. All such complaints will be referred to the Superintendent for investigation and report.



Participation in Board Meetings

The Board of Education recognizes the value of public comment and we care about what you have to say. The Board is also committed to conducting its meetings in a productive and efficient manner that assures that the regular agenda of the Board is completed in a reasonable period of time, honors the voluntary nature of the Board's time and using that time efficiently, and allows for a fair and adequate opportunity for input to be considered. Consequently, public participation at Board meetings will be governed by the following principles:

1. Anyone wishing to speak should fill out a form prior to the start of the meeting. Each person who has done so will be called up by name.
2. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three (3) minutes in duration, and a timer will be displayed on the screen.

Please understand that it is the practice of this board not to answer questions at meetings. When questions are posed, the board will direct the superintendent to assign the appropriate administrator to respond to it within 24 hours.

In addition, the presiding officer may:

1. prohibit public comments that are frivolous, repetitive, and/or harassing;
2. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, off-topic, antagonistic, obscene, or irrelevant;
3. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
4. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
5. call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action;
6. waive these rules with the approval of the Board when necessary for the protection of privacy or the administration of the Board's business.

Circulation of Materials

Any written or printed material to be circulated at a Board Meeting must be submitted to the Superintendent by the Thursday preceding the meeting. Material will be transmitted to the members of the Board for their disposition.



Time Limit for Speakers

No person should speak for more than three minutes, unless the time limit is waived by a majority of the Board members present. When there are a large number of speakers to be heard, the Board of Education may shorten the time. The maximum time allowed for public participation discussion is 15 minutes.

Superintendent's Role

The superintendent is employed by the Berea Board of Education to carry out policies and to administer the district's educational programs. The superintendent is responsible for curriculum, staffing, evaluation, and other educational services. The superintendent is not a member of the Board, but reports information to Board members.

Treasurer's Role

The treasurer is employed by the Berea Board of Education to administer, in cooperation with the superintendent, the financial and legal business of the school district. The treasurer is not a member of the Board, but reports information to Board members.





Berea City
School District

berea.k12.oh.us

390 Fair Street • Berea, Ohio 44017
(216) 898-8300 • Fax (216) 898-8551