

BTCS NEWS

#BTCSIGNITE



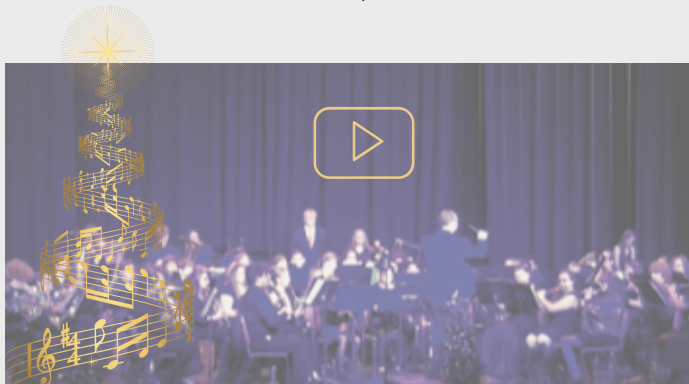
Winter 2022

MERRY Christmas and Happy New Year

We wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and an abundance of blessings for the New Year!

Bristol Tennessee Board of Education

Derek Linkous, Chair; Eric Cuddy, Vice-Chair; Jim Butcher, Secretary; Jill Harrison; and Nelson Pyle; and Dr. Annette Tudor, Director of Schools



Please enjoy this special holiday performance from the Tennessee High School Mighty Viking Band.

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Dates to Remember

January 2	School Closed
January 3	Teacher Work Day School Closed
January 4	Students Return Report Card Distribution
January 16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day School Closed
February 15	Flexible Learning Day
February 16	Parent-Teacher Conference Day School Closed
February 17	Winter Break School Closed
March 13-17	Spring Break School Closed
March 20	Flexible Learning Day School Closed (unless pre-registered)

Celebrating Service

BTCS celebrated the service of longtime school board members Jill Harrison and Nelson Pyle at December's board meeting

Jill Harrison and Nelson Pyle, two longtime Bristol Tennessee Board of Education members, were celebrated for their service at their last official meeting as board members in December.

Ms. Harrison was elected to the board in 2013 to represent East Bristol. She has served as board chair and board vice-chair during her tenure.

Mr. Pyle was elected to the board in 2009 to represent South Bristol. He has served as board chair, vice-chair, and secretary during his tenure.

Ms. Harrison and Mr. Pyle have been steadfast in their commitment to the students, staff, and parents of BTCS, as well as to the entire Bristol community. We invite you to watch this [video tribute](#) to learn more about their countless contributions to our school district.



Jill Harrison



Nelson Pyle

Friendship Career Center Opens

Friendship Career Center, home of Viking Academy, welcomed students in October



Friendship Career Center, home of Viking Academy, welcomed 76 students to the new facility upon their return from Fall Break on October 10. The purpose of Viking Academy is to provide an off-site, innovative learning program for Tennessee High School. Viking Academy offers students personalized educational and work-based learning options for those who choose an alternative pathway or are having difficulty in the traditional system.

"Learning environments play a crucial role in student success," said Kelly Vance, Viking Academy administrator. "Students who are in a positive learning environment with natural light, comfortable furniture, and state-of-the-art equipment are more engaged,

motivated, and able to focus at a higher level. The academic classrooms are furnished with desks, tables, chairs, and stools chosen for comfort and flexibility. The automotive shop rivals college-level facilities and provides an authentic workspace for students interested in this career path. This amazing facility is evidence that not only is our school system dedicated to student success, but our community is committed to their success as well."



Report Cards for the second nine weeks will be available through the PowerSchool Parent Portal on Wednesday, January 4.

Outstanding Fall Athletic Achievements

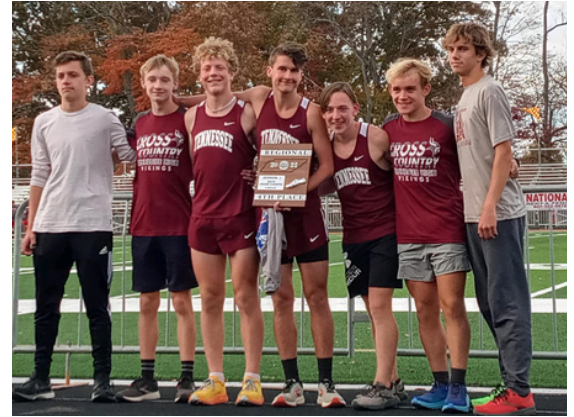
Congratulations to our THS fall athletic teams and athletes

THS Cross Country



ZOE ARRINGTON

TSSAA A/AA State
Cross Country Meet
STATE CHAMPION



The THS girls and boys cross country teams both earned appearances in the state tournament.



39th Annual Arby's Classic December 27-31, 2022

The Arby's Classic is one of the premier basketball tournaments in the country. This year's 39th annual tournament promises to be an exciting week full of talented student-athletes representing the finest high school basketball programs in our nation. Click [here](#) for more about the 2022 teams and schedule.

For fans who may not be able to make it to Bristol or are more comfortable watching from home, Tennessee High School Athletics has partnered with Grass Roots Media to offer fans live tournament action from Viking Hall. The fee to purchase the livestream is the same as entry to the tournament.

Arby's Classic Livestream

THS Girls Volleyball



**Conference and Regional Champions
State Tournament Bid**



26th Annual Doc Maples Holiday Hoops December 20-22, 2022

Join us in Viking Hall December 20-22 for the Doc Maples Holiday Hoops, hosted by the Tennessee High Lady Viking basketball program. The tournament features eight teams from Tennessee and Virginia.



Congratulations Mighty Viking Band

**MVB swept first place
in three competitions in 2022**

A Message from MVB Director David Semones

This has been a magical year for the MVB. We have grown by leaps and bounds since day one. We challenged ourselves musically, visually, professionally, competitively, and physically; and we achieved every goal ... yes, every goal we set for ourselves. Perhaps our sweetest victory was at Western Carolina University. We set out to make the top 12 finals and ended up placing eighth. This was a first for our band. Thank you to our sponsors, staff, students, band board, and parents for a magical season.

Eleven Students Earn All-State Honor Choir

Congratulations to the below Tennessee High School students on qualifying for Tennessee Music Education Association All-State Honor Choir! Of the more than 80 participating high school choral programs, no other school is represented with more students, and only two schools were equal with the number of students selected.

**Brian Alley
Sydney Cunningham
Sean Edwards
Shaylee Fields
Makinzi Goforth
Claire Hankins
Kaylie Henderson
Skye Myers
Delaney Rogers
Kingston Sanders
Anna Shelley**

These students now qualify for a Diploma with Distinction as well as a number of scholarships from colleges who recognize the rigor and achievement of this accomplishment.

22-23 Calendar Update

May 2023 (Revised)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

The 2022-2023 School Calendar includes a day reserved for the Spring Race at Bristol Motor Speedway. This day is typically taken the Friday before the race on Sunday. Since the race is on Easter Sunday, April 9, our approved calendar already set aside for the Friday, April 7, closure for Good Friday.

Therefore, the allotted day will be taken at the end of the school year. **The final regular student day is now Tuesday, May 23.** Wednesday, May 24, will be a Teacher Work Day (school closed), and report cards will be available on Thursday, May 25. The district calendars are always available on our website under [Resources>Calendar](#).

Tennessee Middle School - School of the Year

Congratulations to Bristol Tennessee Middle School



Front (L to R): Don Shell and Paola Martinez, Community Tectonics; Dr. Amy Scott and Dr. Annette Tudor, BTCS Administration. Back (L to R): Jim Butcher, Eric Cuddy, and Derek Linkous, Bristol Tennessee Board of Education

Congratulations to Community Tectonics Architects and the Bristol Tennessee Board of Education for being selected for two School of the Year Awards for Excellence in Architectural Design for the new Bristol Tennessee Middle School. Tennessee Middle School was presented the award for best New Construction for a Middle School and the People's Choice award at the Tennessee School Boards Association (TSBA) Annual Convention in Nashville in November.

Awards were granted in four categories including New Construction (elementary and middle schools), Renovation, and the People's Choice award, which was selected by TSBA membership. Nominees who wished to be considered for the awards were asked to submit details on the following criteria: cost efficiency, aesthetics, energy and environmentally conscious design, flexibility/expandability, and size and development of site.

Congratulations Officer Corby

BTCS School Resource Officers are always ready to serve

Congratulations to Fairmount School Resource Officer Bradley Corby who received the Bristol First, Serving with P.R.I.D.E. Award at the December 6 Bristol Tennessee City Council meeting.

Officer Corby was nominated for the award by Fairmount Principal Kelli Campbell and BTCS Director of Schools Annette Tudor for his acts of service and heroism during an incident which occurred on August 16, 2022, at the school. Read more about the nomination [here](#).



Officer Corby with Fairmount Principal Kelli Campbell and BTCS Director of Schools Annette Tudor

BTCS Family Resource Center-Here to Serve

The BTCS Family Resource Center helps families celebrate the holidays



School counselors and other staff gather to choose gifts for students during the Johnia Berry Toy Drive distribution.

The holiday season would not be the same in Bristol Tennessee City Schools without Family Resource Center (FRC) Coordinator Kay Ward and the individuals, clubs, organizations, and businesses she rallies to meet the holiday needs of BTCS students and families. Year-after-year, our community comes together in a big way to love and serve each other during this season of giving. To the right are a few of the ways the FRC coordinated efforts to help students and families in 2022.

Thanksgiving Projects

- Tennessee High Student Council served 90 families.
- Tennessee Middle PTA served 34 families.
- Holston View PTA served 16 families.

Christmas Projects

- Santa Pal, Inc. served 98 BTCS students in 48 families with 21 sponsors. Friendship Family of Dealerships donated 16 new bikes for BTCS students. A significant amount of Food City and Dollar Tree gift cards were also distributed courtesy of Santa Pal.
- The Johnia Berry Toy Drive served 127 students in grades K-8. The Tennessee High Civinettes coordinated fundraising and toy purchases on behalf of the school.
- The Tennessee High Christmas initiative served ten students with Santa Pal siblings through a PTA fundraiser and private donor and 26 students who were referred by counselors and parents via funding by a private donor.

Exciting News for BTCS Hourly Employees

Effective January 1, all hourly employees will receive a \$1-per-hour increase

Effective January 1, 2023, the Bristol Tennessee Board of Education approved a \$1-per-hour increase for all lanes and steps on the Hourly Support Staff Salary Schedule as well as new daily rates for substitute teachers. You can view the 22-23 Salary Schedules and our latest career opportunities on our [HR website](#).

NOW HIRING!

**Educational Assistants
Substitute Teachers
Custodial Staff
Maintenance Staff**



Convenient scheduling



Competitive salaries



Opportunity to help students

To apply, go to <http://careers.btcs.org>

Free Decodable Books for K-2

Help your child become a stronger reader!



The At-Home Decodable Book Series is available free for all Tennessee families of K-2 children to encourage at-home reading practice to help young learners become stronger readers. Each free decodable packet has seven decodable booklets, which contain 20+ exciting stories full of sounds and words to practice. Families can read the stories at home with their child to help them sound out words and build their reading skills. You can get more information and find out how to order [here](#).



Click to find out what you need to know about **SCHOOL SCHEDULE CHANGES** before winter weather hits!

attendance MATTERS

- When students improve their attendance rates, they improve their academic prospects and chances for graduating.
- Research shows that missing 10% of school days, or about 18 days a year, has a negative impact on academic performance. That's just two days a month.

As a parent or caregiver, you want the best for your children or other dependents. You may be concerned or have questions about certain behaviors they exhibit and how to ensure they get help.

At the link below, you can learn more about

Mental health matters [Talking About Mental Health With Your Child](#)

SPORTS SCHEDULES

For up-to-date **SCHEDULES** for THS and TMS athletics, go to btcs.org/athletics