



Deanna Brewer
Principal

Jennifer Cervantes
Assistant Principal

Happy New Year



Happy 2026! As we welcome the New Year, we want to extend our warmest wishes to our students, families, and staff. A new year brings fresh beginnings, renewed energy, and exciting opportunities for learning and growth. We look forward to a successful second semester! * See attached "Midyear Letter" from the FDOE Commissioner of Education.

BCS Board of Directors



January is School Board Appreciation Month and we want to take this opportunity to recognize our board for their service. We appreciate the time and support they provide to our school and our students. Thank you for your dedication to our school, Mr. Manson, Mr. Branum, Mr. Houlihan, Mr. Kadyampakeni, and Mrs. Patterson!

Thanks Partner!

We are incredibly grateful for the generous support of our local business sponsors that made contributions to Polk Education Foundation's Matching Grant Program. Their partnership plays an important role in enriching the educational experiences we provide for our students and strengthening the connection between our school and the community we serve. These generous donations have helped fund our after-school tutoring program, brand new book purchases, and even our very own planetarium for our students to explore right here on our campus.



A huge "Thank You!" goes out to the following: **24/7 Septic Solutions Inc, Bolton's Towing Service, C. Harrison Transportation & Towing, Florida Wheel Specialists, The Market Realty Co., McLeans Site Services LLC, Mulling Insurance, Polk Education Foundation, Polkdale Farm, S.R. Wright & Company P.A., Warehouse Flooring & Design.**



School Hours
7:50 - 3:00

Morning Drop-off
7:30am

**5240 Berkley Rd
Auburndale, FL 33823**

Office Hours
7:30 - 3:30

Early Dismissal
12:30

(863) 968-5024
www.berkleyknights.net



Your Vote Matters

Polk County Public Schools is asking voters to consider a 1.0 millage referendum to support recruitment and retention of school-based staff and protect critical student programs. As public schools, charter schools will receive their appropriate share of the voter-approved referendum funds based on student enrollment. If approved, this funding will provide additional local resources that benefit all public-school students, including those in charter schools. The district has created a FAQ that will be updated with information as it becomes available.

Be sure to check out the link below for more information about the mileage referendum.

<https://www.polkschoolsfl.com/community/taxreferendum>

Spring Pictures



Spring and Class Pictures will be held on February 11th. Students may dress out of their Berkley uniform on this day, but they must follow general dress code guidelines. Sleeveless tops, hats, jeans with holes, or backless shoes may not be worn. Class pictures must be pre-purchased. Extra class pictures will not be available for purchase after picture day. Flyers with additional information will be sent home closer to picture day.

Pinewood Derby



Our annual Pinewood Derby is scheduled for March 5th, 4:00 - 5:15PM. All of Berkley's PreK-5th graders are invited to participate! Students and families can work together to construct and decorate cars prior to the racing event. We have derby car kits available for \$5 each, if needed. Families can also choose to purchase their own kits if preferred, but derby rules must be followed for construction, weight and size. More information to come for those families who are interested in participating in our 2026 Pinewood Derby!

25/26 Yearbooks

Our 2025-2026 Berkley Charter School yearbooks are now on sale! You can purchase yours online by going to: buytheyearbook.com. They are \$25 but prices will go up. Shop early to get the discounted rate. *Order form attached.

26/27 Open Enrollment



Mark your calendar! Our Open Enrollment dates for the 2026-2027 school year are March 23 - 27, 2026. Applications will be available online and in-person. This is only for new students to Berkley, current students do not need to reapply.

(863) 968-5024
www.berkleyknights.net

Next Board Meeting

Feb. 13, 2026
7am

Connect with us!


www.berkleyknights.net


www.facebook.com/berkleycharterschool


<http://focusk12.polk-fl.net>


berkleyvolunteergroup@gmail.com


[https://getfortifyfl.com/](http://getfortifyfl.com/)

Berkley's
Parent Liaison
is
Mayme Plumlee

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

ATTEND TODAY. ACHIEVE TOMORROW.



What's Ahead:

Feb. 11 - Spring Pictures
 Feb. 13 - Early Release
 Feb. 16 - No School



January 2026



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1 No School Winter Break	2 No School Winter Break
5 No School Winter Break	6 Students Return to School Block Day 6	7 Block Day 1	8 Block Day 2	9 Freestyle Friday Block Day 3
12 Block Day 4	13 Report Cards Block Day 5	14 Block Day 6	15 Block Day 1	16 Bell icon Early Release 12:30 PM Block Day 2
19 No School MLK Jr. Day	20 Block Day 3	21 100th Day of School Block Day 4	22 Block Day 5	23 Block Day 6
26 Block Day 1	27 Block Day 2	28 Block Day 3	29 Block Day 4	30 Block Day 5



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LUNCH

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY



Holiday

05

Chicken & Yellow Rice w/biscuit
Steamed Broccoli
Corn
Juice
Milk

12

BBQ Chicken Sandwich
Green Beans
Macaroni & Cheese Fresh
fruit
Milk

06

Chicken Nuggets w/ roll
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Fresh Fruit
Milk

13

Spaghetti w/breadstick
Sliced carrots
Steamed Broccoli
Chilled fruit
Milk

07

Star Fish Nuggets
Baked beans
Baked fries
Chilled fruit
Milk

14

Cheeseburger on bun
Romaine, Tomato & pickle
Baked fries
Fresh fruit
Milk

08

Beef Nachos w/Romaine & Tom
Fiesta Rice
Black beans
Fresh fruit
Milk

15

Pizza
Corn
Carrots w/dip
Chilled fruit or juice
Milk

09

Mini Pepperoni Calzones
Green Peas
Carrots w/dip
Chilled fruit or juice
Milk

16

Holiday

19

Shepherds Pie w/ Roll
Steamed broccoli
Corn
Fresh fruit
Milk

20

Hamburger on bun
Romaine, Tomato & pickle
Baked Fries
Chilled fruit
Milk

21

Corn Dogs
Green Beans
Seasoned Noodles
Fresh fruit
Milk

22

Teriyaki Chicken w/egg roll
Caribbean blend
Fresh Veggie (grape tomatoes)
Fresh fruit
Milk

29

Walking Tacos w/cheese cup
Carrots w/dip
Black beans / Rice
Juice
Milk

26

Chicken Patty Sandwich
Romaine, Tomato & pickle
Baked fries
Fresh fruit
Milk

27

Beefaroni w/ roll
Sliced Carrots
Green Beans
Chilled fruit
Milk

28

Mini Pepperoni Calzones
Corn
Garden Salad
Chilled fruit or juice
Milk

30



School Information:

Monday – Thursday Chef Salad or Caesar Salad & Friday Yogurt Muffin; Mon-Friday Ham or Turkey Sandwich or wrap
Lunch K-5th = \$2.60; Staff = \$5.00; Breakfast = \$1.25; Staff – A la carte pricing

JANUARY 2026



Ryan Petty, *Chair*
Esther Byrd, *Vice Chair*
Members
Grazie P. Christie
Layla Collins
Daniel P. Faganholi, Sr.
Kelly Garcia
MaryLynn Magar

December 15, 2025

Dear Florida's Teachers and Parents,

As we reach the halfway point of the school year, I want to thank you for everything you do to support our students. Teachers work every day to lay the foundation for student success. Parents and families strengthen that foundation by reinforcing learning at home and helping students stay focused and prepared.

Winter break provides a chance for students to rest and enjoy time with their families. It also provides an opportunity for you to reinforce at home what students are learning in school. Reading together, practicing math facts, focusing on resiliency, and talking about goals for the new year all help students stay on track.

Many families draw strength and guidance from their faith and traditions. Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, "*Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.*" This wisdom reflects the responsibility we share. When schools and families work together to educate our students, children benefit for a lifetime.

As we look ahead to the second half of the school year, I encourage you to continue the strong partnership that has carried students this far. When teachers and parents work together with a shared purpose, students feel supported and motivated to excel. Your efforts at home reinforce the important work happening in classrooms across the state, and that unity helps students grow academically and personally.

In addition, the Florida Department of Education is proud to provide parent resources for student success in Mathematics, English Language Arts, and Resiliency to help families support learning at home. Each guide outlines key concepts and skills taught by grade level, defines important terms, and offers practical activities and questions to encourage learning beyond the classroom; all aligned to the B.E.S.T. Standards. Parent resources include:

- <https://flmath4all.org/Home/Index>
- <https://www.fl DOE.org/academics/standards/subject-areas/math-science/mathematics/parent-resources.shtml>
- <https://www.fl DOE.org/academics/standards/just-read-fl/parent-guides-for-english-language-arts.shtml>
- <https://www.buildresiliency.org/parentresources>

Thank you for the many ways you support our students every day in the classroom and at home. I appreciate your partnership and remain confident that, working together, we will help every student finish the year strong.

I wish you all good tidings of comfort and joy this holiday season, and I look forward to another successful semester in the new year.

Blessings,

Anastasios Kamoutsas