



Berkshire Local Schools Community Member:

Our first week of school is behind us and now we are preparing for the Great Geauga County Fair. This is a new experience for me and my family and we love the way the community is coming together to enjoy this awesome event.

During their first week of school, the students were treated to a lot of firsts. The most obvious is their first day of school. At Ledgemont and Burton Elementary Schools, the students also participated in the first ever flag raising ceremony to recognize the symbolic start to the school year. At each school, the entire staff and student body gathered around the flagpoles and were greeted by a welcome address from their Principal. The flag was raised and the students and staff recited the pledge of allegiance. They were symbolically welcomed to the new school year and then proceeded with their regular school day. At Berkshire Junior/Senior High School, the students were greeted outside by their new High School Principal, Mr. King. As students made their way to their lockers, they found a post-it note stuck to their locker with an inspirational message, so that they would all start the school year on a positive note.

Our goal is to help the students get off to their best start ever, and show them that with a positive attitude and hard work, there is no goal that they cannot accomplish. We want our students to dream big, and take steps to make their dreams come true.

We hope everyone has a safe and happy Fair break, and are energized and ready when they come back to school on Wednesday, September 6.

School start and end times are shown in the table below:

<u>School</u>	<u>Start Time</u>	<u>End Time</u>
Berkshire Junior/Senior High	7:45 a.m.	2:41 p.m.
Burton Elementary School	8:45 a.m.	3:15 p.m.
Ledgemont Elementary School	9:00 a.m.	3:30 p.m.

REMINDER: Berkshire Junior/Senior High School, Burton Elementary, and Ledgemont Elementary will be on an adjusted bell schedule on Thursday's to provide time at the end of the day for team meetings. On those days, our junior/senior high school students will be dismissed at 1:55 p.m. Burton Elementary School students will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m., and Ledgemont Elementary School students will be dismissed at 2:45 p.m. **We will be sending out some surveys soon to gauge your interest in continuing with these early release times, or moving in a different direction. Our goal is to be aware of the scheduling issues that these different start times cause you, and if need be, come up with options that work better for you.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher or principal. Our goal is to work as a partner with you to help our students reach new heights, and we can only do that if we work well together.

Sincerely,

John Stoddard
Superintendent
Berkshire Local School District