



“Unleashing Each Student’s Potential”

Baker-Butler Elementary School Home of the Bears

Building a Community of Learners

Baker-Butler Elementary School strives to reach and to challenge every student, every day. Our mission is to build a strong community of students, teachers, parents, and community partners, and to prepare our students to be lifelong learners. We support students across all traditional academic subjects as well as in the arts, music, and physical fitness.



Principal Steve Saunders

School Highlights

Baker Butler Elementary school is located on fifty-five acres of land in northern Albemarle County, the largest footprint of any elementary school in the division. Students at the school get to take full advantage of this

abundance of outdoor space via a series of nature trails that run throughout the property. At least once a month, BBES teachers and their students participate in “forest days” in which they get outside for nature-based learning. This year, PE students are using the trail system as part of their “Bear Tracks” program in which they use pedometers to record their daily step count with a goal of taking enough steps to walk the entire state of Virginia.

The trails at BBES provide an important connection to the surrounding residential communities in the school’s attendance zone. Connection with community is another element of the BBES philosophy that is a cornerstone of the school’s work. Community building events take place throughout the year and include activities such as a bike rodeo conducted in conjunction with the Albemarle County Police Department, a community Valentine’s Day dance, and a Trunk or Treat activity that takes place each October. Building strong relationships with all community stakeholders, and instilling in students a

strong sense of why community is important are significant areas of focus for the school.

Building community among students within the school is another area in which BBES takes a great deal of pride. All students work to build strong social, emotional and academic bonds through programs such as Responsive Classroom.



Students at BBES will see the school’s commitment to creating learning spaces that are conducive to high levels of student engagement and creativity. A newly renovated school library space that include flexible furniture and soft seating, the recent creation of a school maker space and the installation of new, modern playground equipment are just a few examples of the school’s commitment to this work.

Facility Information

- Built in 2002
- 84,365 sq. ft.
- Last major renovation—none

Baker-Butler Attendance Area

