

*ANCHOR BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH*  
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Chesterfield, MI 48047  
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*Phil Latona*  
*Principal*  
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*Paige Hunter*  
*Assistant Principal*  
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Dear Middle School South Families,

It is with great excitement and pride that I welcome you and your family to Anchor Bay Middle School South! As we begin the 2025–26 school year, we are committed to fostering a school culture rooted in unity, respect, and shared purpose.

At South, we believe that when we come together as students, staff, and families, we create a powerful and supportive learning environment where every student can thrive. This belief is captured in our commitment to all be **TARS** and our new school motto: "**One Tar.**" It's more than just a phrase; "**One Tar**" exemplifies that we will stand together, support one another, and win together. We are all Tars!

Building a strong relationship with our new families is imperative to success, so I would like to take the first step by introducing myself to those who do not know me. My name is Phil Latona, and I was raised in Anchor Bay! From kindergarten, to working 21 years in the district, I have a passion for Anchor Bay and the success of our kids. In my first nine years working in the district, I taught 9th Grade American History and coached baseball and football at Anchor Bay High School. In the 2013-14 school year, I served as Assistant Principal and taught classes at Anchor Bay Middle School South. The following year I had the privilege of being the principal at Dean A. Naldrett Elementary School and had a wonderful experience. I am currently in my 11th year as Principal at Anchor Bay Middle School South and love being at the middle level.

Our Assistant Principal is Paige Hunter, and she is entering her 8<sup>th</sup> year in that role. She taught English Language Arts for 18 years at Lake Orion High School. There she was also the high school ELA department chair and the district secondary ELA curriculum chair.

We are also excited to introduce our new Middle School South Athletic Coordinator, Kam Markwardt! Mr. Markwardt has been working as the Assistant Athletic Coordinator at Anchor Bay High School but has now transitioned to South. If you have questions regarding athletics, please feel free to contact him with any questions you may have. ([kmarkwardt@abs.misd.net](mailto:kmarkwardt@abs.misd.net))

In terms of academic success, the staff at South looks to exceed our past years' accomplishments in all academic subjects. This can be achieved only with your continued support. We value your input and look forward to a quality school-home working relationship to build on our successes. We hope you are able to visit us often and look forward to offering opportunities for you to be involved in our school.

Communication is also key to our success and will be an emphasis this school year as we develop relationships with the families. We will be working hard at keeping you informed with what is happening at Middle School South through our monthly newsletter, the South homepage, Schoology, social media, and School Messenger. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the main office at 586-949-4510.

In closing, throughout the school year, you'll see our **"One Tar"** motto of unity reflected in everything we do, from our academic programs and extracurricular activities, to our daily interactions. Our goal is to ensure that every student feels seen, valued, and empowered to reach their full potential.

Together, we are all Tars!

Sincerely,

Phil Latona  
Principal Anchor Bay Middle School South

**\*\*Important Dates and Reminders Below\*\***

### **TAR PRIDE ORIENTATION**

- **August 19<sup>th</sup> : 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation 10am-12pm - \*Student Only Event\***
  - o Student Schedules & Lockers
  - o Team Building
  - o Tours
  - o Student Pictures
- **August 20<sup>th</sup> : 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation 10am – 12pm - \*Student Only Event\***
  - o Student Schedules & Lockers
  - o Team Building
  - o Tours
  - o Student Pictures

### **Important Picture and Schedule Information**

- The school will also be open from 12pm – 4pm on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> for any parents who would like to explore student schedules with their children after orientation. We also have the ability for students to have their picture taken from 12pm-4pm on the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> if they are unable to attend the morning orientation or would like to have their picture later in the day.
- Meet the Principal - Mr. Latona will be available each of the orientation days from 12pm – 6pm for any parent who would like to stop in and talk.
- Student schedules will only be available electronically via PowerSchool on the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Student schedules are currently being completed and will not be finalized until August 18<sup>th</sup>.

- All students will receive a paper copy of their schedule on the first day of school.
- If you have scheduling questions, please contact either of the Middle School South Counselors.
  - Mrs. Guerra – [kguerra@abs.misd.net](mailto:kguerra@abs.misd.net)
  - Mrs. Keena – [kkeena@abs.misd.net](mailto:kkeena@abs.misd.net)
- **August 27<sup>th</sup> – First Day of School** (1/2 Day for Students) 8:20am – 11:45am
- **August 28<sup>th</sup> – Full Day of School** 8:20am – 3:08pm
- **August 29<sup>th</sup> – September 1<sup>st</sup> – No School – Labor Day Weekend**
- **September 2<sup>nd</sup> – School Resumes – Full Day of School** – 8:20am – 3:08pm
- **September 4<sup>th</sup> – Curriculum Night** 6pm – 7:30pm

### **Reminders**

- Bus Information will be emailed to parents directly from Anchor Bay Transportation.
  - AB Transportation Contact: 586-725-4220
- South Athletics
  - If your child is planning to play a fall sport, please make sure to have a current physical on file dated **after April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. They will not be able to participate or try out without a current physical on file.
  - Specific Athletic Information will be emailed out to parents and posted on the South Homepage.
  - If you have questions regarding athletics, please contact Middle School South Athletic Coordinator, Mr. Markwardt. [kmarkwardt@abs.misd.net](mailto:kmarkwardt@abs.misd.net)

### **2025-26 Suggested Supply List**

- (6) Spiral Notebooks (1 for each class)
- Pencils/Pens
- Highlighters
- **Please note – The school will provide all students with a 3-ring binder and a folder for each of their core classes.**

## **Parent Drop-Off/Pick-Up Details**

### **[Click Here for Map](#)**

- **All student drop-off/pick-up's are done in the back of the building, Door 6. ([CLICK HERE FOR MAP](#))**
- **Please do not use the bus loop in the front of the building during drop-off (7:45am – 8:25am) and/or pickup times (2:40pm – 3:25pm).**
- **If you are unable to find a spot in the back along the curb indicated on the map during drop-off/pick-up, please park in one of the parking spots and allow your child to use the crosswalk. The crosswalk will have staff assisting students safely across.**
- **If you are coming into the main office at any time during the day, please park in front of the building and enter through Door 1.**

## **Full Day Bell Schedule**

1st Hour: 8:20 AM -9:22 AM

2nd Hour: 9:27 AM -10:24 AM

3rd Hour: 10:29 AM - 11:26 AM

4th Hour: 11:31 AM - 1:01 PM (Lunches during 4<sup>th</sup> hour)

A Lunch 11:31 AM - 12:01 PM

B Lunch 12:01 PM - 12:31 PM

C Lunch 12:31 PM - 1:01 PM

5th Hour: 1:06 PM - 2:03 PM

6th Hour: 2:08 PM - 3:08 PM

## **1/2 Day Bell Schedule**

1st Hour: 8:20 AM - 8:50 AM

2nd Hour: 8:55 AM - 9:25 AM

3rd Hour: 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM

4th Hour: 10:05 AM - 10:35 AM

5th Hour: 10:40 AM - 11:10 AM

6th Hour: 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

## **Contact Information**

Phil Latona – [platona@abs.misd.net](mailto:platona@abs.misd.net)

Paige Hunter – [phunter@abs.misd.net](mailto:phunter@abs.misd.net)

Kam Markwardt – [kmarkwardt@abs.misd.net](mailto:kmarkwardt@abs.misd.net)

Main Office Phone: 586-949-4510