



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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March 2020 Newsletter

Greeting Byron Center School Community Families,

I must admit, we certainly were caught off guard with the sudden onset of the intestinal virus this past week. In a matter of 48 hours the percentage of students impacted by the illness ranged from 2-3% to almost 20% . While the decision to close school is difficult one to make, I firmly believe calling off school Friday preserved spreading the virus to a fair amount of students/families. Please be reminded, students should be free from fever and vomiting for 24 hours in order to attend school. On that note, the KCHD has asked schools to share information regarding the Coronavirus. Please refer to the Nurses Corner (below) for information. Finally, all parents of students in grade 3 and lower are asked to read the Read by Grade The information below. It is imperative that families understand the legislation and potential impact on students beginning this year.



School Values

Our School's mission emphasizes academics, personal connections and positive character traits. These expectations separate us from other schools. In particular, the character traits are shared values that are intended to guide our actions within the school community. Whether it be your child, another student, a staff member, or a fellow parent/guardian

let's all look for opportunities to recognize and affirm these traits in action.

In March BCCS highlights COURTESY and RESPECT. I often hear reports about these two values in action by substitutes, guest presenters and visitors through interactions at BCCS. These are certainly areas of strength in our school's culture. Courtesy is one's attitude and/or behavior toward others that is considered to be polite and caring. Respect is viewed as actions and beliefs that show admiration of qualities/abilities in oneself and/or others. Most of us agree courteous and respectful people are truly appreciated and desired in our society. As members of BCCS , we are called to look for and recognize acts of courtesy and respect within the school community.

Important Information from the Office

BCCS Annual Parent/Guardian Surveys: Every family is asked to complete a Parent/Guardian School Culture Survey. The results will be used in the School Improvement planning process. The survey should take less than 5 minutes and can be found at this link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FQDVFTN>

Thank You for your cooperation and input.



State Testing: The state testing season really gets going after spring break. These assessments are important to all stakeholders in the school community as they are used as measures of student growth and performance and educational effectiveness. They represent us! As parent/guardians you are asked help your children prepare for the tests. There are a few basic requests of the homefront:

- Be aware of test dates and tests administered for your students
- Encourage your children to give a good faith effort

- Engage your children in conversation about the tests
- Assure your children get proper rest and a nutritious breakfast

State Testing Resources for Parents/Guardians:

- MDE Parent Resources: What Parents Should Know About Assessments:
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/What_Parents_Should_Know_618061_7.pdf
- 2020 Assessment Schedule
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Testing_Schedule_for_Summative_Assessments_635008_7.pdf



School News

Spring Conferences: Thursday, March 5th, from 12:30-8:00 pm

- K-5 conferences can be scheduled through the online scheduler
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054ca9aa2ba1f85-201920201>
- MS & HS staff will be available on a first come first serve basis from 12:30- 8 except 5-5:30 for Meal Break sponsored by our PTO.

Conferences are an important component of school. There is value in gaining feedback on your child's academic, social and emotional performance in the school setting. All parents/guardians are encouraged to participate.

- The PTO will hold a Book Fair in the gym and will organize a staff meal.
*****PLEASE look at the sign-up genius link below to assist with the meal (upper portion of sign-up) and or book fair (lower portion of sign-up) as helpers are needed...thanks for the consideration.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080849a8a729aafb6-spring4>



Reading Month: March is National Reading Month and a time for all to celebrate reading. This year's theme is WESTERN.... "YEE HAW" Let's read!.... that features competitions, events and activities to promote and celebrate reading. BCCS held a kick-off on Monday, March 2nd. A calendar of events is sent with all k-5 students. Have fun and good luck!



K-Roundup/Open House: On March 24, BCCS will host or annual Kindergarten Round-up /Open House for new families of students planning to attend Kindergarten in the fall, and families who are interested in BCCS grades 1st-12th. Fliers will be available and distributed at the end of the week.

Read by Grade 3 Law: Parents of students (and future students) in grade 3 and lower need to be aware and understand the READ BY GRADE THREE LAW in Michigan. This goes into effect this year: this is the first year where schools are required to retain 3rd grade students who do not meet the required reading levels. The michigan department of education provides a parent awareness toolkit at https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_74161-490688--,00.html

I will also be on hand during conferences to share information and answer any questions you may have. We cannot stress enough how important it is for families to understand the legislation.

Nurses Corner

Healthy School Reminders: Please encourage students to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially before eating and after RR use. Remember to cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing. Best to cough/sneeze into the pit of your arm/elbow without the availability of Kleenex. Finally, it is important to keep your children home for school for 24 hrs after fever and vomiting have resolved.



Coronavirus Resources: As part of the governments mitigation plan for this virus, schools are asked to share resources and information with families:

BCCS receives information and guidance from the Kent County Health Department and will continue to provide updates as they become available. At this time there have been no changes to our current health policies. More information about COVID-19(Coronavirus) can be found at: <https://www.accesskent.com/Health/coronavirus.htm>.

As of 2/27/20 the immediate risk of this new virus to the American public is believed to be low at this time, everyone can do their part to help us respond to this emerging public health threat.

Person-to-person spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 has been seen among close contacts of returned travelers from Hubei province in China. This virus is not currently spreading in the community in the United States and risk to the general public is low. Children should engage in usual preventive actions to avoid infection, including cleaning hands often using soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer, avoiding people who are sick, and staying up to date on vaccinations, including influenza vaccine.

Awards and Recognitions

Band Festival Recognition: Once again the BCCS High School Band received top ratings in all areas at the MSBO Band Competition held last week at Ottawa Hills. This qualifies HS band to the state competition (details forthcoming as received). Congratulations to Mr. Beyer and the members of the HS Band for their accomplishments.

January Character Trait - Compassion and Caring



Josie Kroll, Jayden Leon, Kenzie Miranda, Ella Hicks, Micaiah Kraft, Grayson Laplow Aurora Kring, Brielle Kleiman, Nolan Bolt, Addison Oisten, Liam Borsk, Ellie VanDussen, Maiya Cruz, Christian Smigiel, Zoey Ruso, Gracie Leys, Elizabeth Brandow, Gracie Duncan, Ava Shrontz, Mackenzie Hollis, Amelia Pike, Ginger Bosscher, Arthur Scott, Nena Kish, Mackenzie Hollis, Kinsley Duncan, Brooke Stratton, Austin Razmus, Sophia Candelaria, Arthur Scott, Macy Inman, Zack Gregorski, Dominic Straton, Ella Franson, Daniela Candelaria, Olivia Gregorski, Sam Burman, Katelyn Howell, Rachel Steffen, Joselyn VanDussen, Hannah Schneider, Sarah Buchanan, Josalyn Cashman, Daniel Jones, Meredith Jager

Student of the Month:

K-2 Kayla VanderZee

3-5 Maddy Barron

6-8 Kinsley Duncan

9-12 Dani Verburg



PTO Fundraiser Winners: Thanks for your support

Pizza Party(classes with most sales)

- K-5 = 1st grade w/ \$1288.75 raised
- 6-12 = 7th grade w/ \$387.00

Top Seller Awards



K-5

- 1st Devon Bollema \$25 gift card
- 2nd Kayla VanderZee \$10 gift card
- 3rd Leila Hubbel \$10 gift card

6-12

- 1st Xavier Coffee \$25 gift card
- 2nd Tate Anderson \$10 gift card
- 3rd Ava Syswerda \$10 gift card

Support Your PTO/School :

- Sub sale Pick-up :Wednesday, March 4 (after school in gym)
- SCRIP: sold before school on first Monday of the month, online sales web page
<https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>

- Box Tops and Family Fare Receipts put in mailbox in entryway

******New App for Box Tops****** Now its easier then ever to earn money for Byron Center Charter School using Box Tops for Education App.. All you need is your phone and your store receipts. Download the ALL-NEW **Box Tops For Edudcation** app, search for our school, shop as you normally would, then simply **scan** your store **receipts** to find participating products. The app will automatically credit BCCS's **Box Tops** earrings online.



School Happenings/ Calendar

Mar. 2: Book Mobile – grades K-5

Mar. 3: Band Festival for 7th and 8th grade
Local Author Visit (Erica Abel) K-5 grades

Mar. 5: Book Fair 11:30am – 7:30pm
Parent/Teacher conferences – Half day, dismissal at 11:15am
Grab and Go Lunches

NO after school program due to conferences

Mar. 6: **No School**

Mar. 8: Day Light Savings – move clocks ahead one hour

Mar. 9 – 20: Penny Wars – proceeds go to Prom

Mar. 12: Band Festival for Jazz Band

PTO meeting at 3:30pm

Mar. 13: Popcorn sale – proceeds go to yearbook

Mar. 16: Book Mobile – grades K-5

Mar. 17: Grandparent/Special Friend Day: K-2 at 9:00-10:30 and 3-5 at 12:30-2:00

Board of Directors Meeting at 6:00pm

Mar. 20: Spirit Shop – during lunch – proceeds go to student activities

End of 3rd quarter

Mar. 24: 6:30-7:30pm Kindergarten Roundup and New enrollment Open House

Mar. 27: Hat Day - \$1.00 – proceeds go to Peer-to-Peer group

Mar. 27: Eagle Assembly at 2:05 pm

Mar. 30 – Apr. 2: Spirit Week more details announced later

Mar. 30: KDL Book Mobile – grades K-5

Mar. 31: Skate Night – 5:00 – 7:00 pm – proceeds go to yearbook

Apr. 2: Festival of the Arts – keep watch for details coming soon

NO Aftercare, Mid-High Tutoring or Girls on the Run

Apr. 3 – 10 – Spring Break

Girls on the Run: Tuesdays and Thursdays through May – exception, not meeting Thurs. Mar. 5th or Thurs. April 2nd.