

November 2020 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians of BCCS Students,

Where does the time go? As of today, we have now completed the first quarter of the 2020-21 school year.

Many of our members are amazed with the fact that we are still in session as several area schools have moved to remote/distance learning. Believe me when I tell you there's been a lot of time and effort given toward continued face to face learning. Incidentally, I will post an update to the Extended COVID Learning Plan to the school's website after BOE approval in a couple weeks. This will include a host of actions taken in the school community over the past month that helped keep BCCS students in school.

I am grateful for how our small but mighty school continues to adapt and respond to the challenges presented by the pandemic. I thank the faculty and staff for their resiliency and dedication to BCCS students and families. On behalf of our teachers and staff, I thank the students and families for enduring all of the stuff being asked of you. Finally, I ask that we stay strong and continue to do our part to mitigate the impact of this pandemic on our school community.

Positive Character Traits in Action

The character traits BCCS highlight during the months of November and December are Joyfulness and Appreciation. Joy is a powerful emotion that seems to lift people's spirit. A demonstration of one's appreciation toward another person often brings joy to the receiver and sender. These two characteristics are great personal qualities to have as most of us like being around joyful and appreciative people. I do not think any parent would not want joyfulness and appreciation as cornerstones of their child's character. As members of the BCCS school community, we are to look for opportunities that bring joy and appreciation into the culture of our school. These are two important character traits to share within our school family, especially during the upcoming holiday seasons. Spread some joy and look for ways to show your appreciation to others.

News From The Office

Report Cards/Progress Reports:

- First quarter report cards for face to face students will be sent home Friday, November 6.
- Progress reports for online learners were emailed to parents through Edgenuity this past Wednesday, 10/28.

Mid-High Extended Day Programming: In the past few years BCCS has offered students designated as at-risk the opportunity to have extended day/after school support services in grades 7 through 12. There are several reasons we have not offered this program this year, yet in the next week we begin identification and communication with students and parents. Please know this is a grant-driven program, designed to provide additional support to designated students who meet the at-risk criteria.

Covid-19 Update: As part of the Extended Covid Learning Plan (ECLP) legislation, all public schools in Michigan are required to update and make public the plans for continued educational services during the pandemic. Each month an update is presented to the Board of Education for approval, then the plan is posted to the website for awareness and transparency. The update for the month of October will be shared on 11/11 and posted to the website along with our ongoing COVID related data.

Request for 100% OnLine Program for 2nd Semester: Any parent seeking to put their children into the 100% online program for the *second* semester of the 2020-21 school year is to let the school know by November 13. Schools are required to give preliminary numbers by the 15th of the month to our vendor Edgenuity. Please contact Mrs. Boersma (kboersma@byroncentercharter.org) in the office if you plan to participate in the online program. Please note: this includes designation for BCCS students who are currently in the online program.

School Happenings

Canned Food Drive: Byron Center Charter School will be teaming up with Buist Electric in their annual food drive. Non-perishable food items can be brought in Monday 11/2 thru Friday 11/22. The collections will support the local outreach ministry during the upcoming holiday season. Many families truly benefit from our donations so please share the gift of giving with the kids and THANKS.

Nurses Corner (Mrs. Schrader)

BIG Reminder: students should remain home if **any** household member is being tested for COVID -19. Also, just a reminder of the [KCHD Algorithms](#): COVID-19 protocols schools are to follow for students/staff who have known exposure with or without symptoms or who have symptoms of COVID-19

- Please feel free to contact the school nurse if you have any COVID related questions. Information is also available in the COVID Parent Guide on the school website under About Us.

Counselors Chair (Mrs. Cravino)

Thank you to all of the high school students for your participation with PSAT and SAT testing this week. I know it was a bit strange taking these tests in the fall but we are grateful for your participation. Test results should be available on your College Board student portal within the next 6 weeks.

- A reminder there are family mental/emotional health and wellness resources available in the COVID Parent Guide on the school website under About Us.

Calendar of Events

11/2-11/20- Annual Holiday Food Drive
11/5-PTO Meeting 3:30
11/6- 1st quarter Report Cards go home
11/10- BOE Meeting 6:00
11/13- Deadline for 2nd semester 100% online requests
11/20-Hat Day \$1 (supports Peer to Peer program)
11/25-27:-Thanksgiving Break No School (Happy Thanksgiving!!!)

Cancelled Activities due to COVID Restrictions

11/2 Muffin Monday
11/6 Eagle Assembly

- Mother Daughter Night
- Popcorn Sales

11/10 Blood Drive
11/20 Spirit Shop

In Closing

Please do not forget to fall back this weekend. Clocks are to be set back one hour on Saturday night at midnight.

For those who did not vote absentee, please be reminded of our civic duty and vote on Tuesday the 3rd. The student body will also vote for the presidential race. I am anxious to see the results.

Once again I ask that folks remain flexible as we continue to navigate through COVID-19 in the school community. There has been a serious uptick in positive cases all around us. We will remain vigilant and ask you to do the same in following the safety precautions and in communication of COVID related issues.

Have a wonderful weekend and Happy Halloween!

W/ Care,

Mark Kasmer
BCCS Principal