



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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1/12/21

Dear Parents and Guardians of BCCS Students,

Please accept my apologies for the lateness of this newsletter. It is hard to believe we are within 2 weeks of the end of the first semester for the 2020-21 school year. Needless to say, there have been many disruptions and distractions during the first half of the school year, yet our small but mighty school continues to adapt so to meet the challenges and needs of our learners. On a good note, it is nice to have all the face to face students back in school (especially our HS students). We hope that this remains the case for the second semester. Once again I ask our families to be flexible and understanding as there will likely be continued changes and adjustments in the normal routines at school. Please know your cooperation and support is needed and appreciated.

Character Traits in Action

This month we are celebrating the values of care and compassion. Each week we will encourage students to look for ways to care for others and help people in need. Last month our students and staff donated winter items to In the Image, and we held a much needed Blood Drive with a local church. We call upon parents and guardians to help our school grow students' awareness and understanding of these two important character traits. If you see care and compassion in action ...name it, and stress the potential good that comes from the action/event. Finally, we are all called to look for opportunities to model care and compassion in our daily lives. Your consideration and active participation is appreciated.

Items From The Office

COVID Update: The monthly Extended Covid Learning Plan (ECLP) will be posted to the website upon BOE approval on January 19. This month also represents a required mid-year report regarding the school's performance in managing the delivery of educational services during the pandemic.. The COVID Data reports will also be updated on the website for your understanding and awareness. This past week the Governor opened the COVID vaccine to school personnel beginning this week Monday. Mrs. Schrader is in contact with KCHD and will help orchestrate the vaccines for our faculty and staff.

Annual Education Report: After the Board of Education recognition on January 19th, BCCS will post the 2019-20 Annual Education Report (AER) to the school website. However, due to the pandemic, the 2019-20 report will have limited data (IE no state assessments last spring). Nonetheless, the AER provides a series of informational items regarding the schools performance including student assessment, state accountability and teacher quality. The report meets the state and federal statutory

requirements and is intended for the awareness and understanding of the members of our school community and the general public.

School Related Information

MidHigh Exams: BCCS will not administer mid-high exams this year; rather, teachers will continue a sequence of instruction in the course of study. The primary reason for this decision is directly connected to our school's response with COVID related issues. Given the number and frequency of disruptions in instruction it simply does not make sense to take the time to prepare for mid-year examinations when the opportunity exists to continue the sequence of course studies. The following communicates the plans for next week, as the schedule/calendar will not be altered.

- Wednesday -Friday remain half days (11:15-20 dismissal)
 - * Wednesday is 1st and 6th hrs.
 - * Thursday is 2nd and 5th hrs.
 - * Friday is 3rd and 4th hrs.
- Grab-n-Go lunches are available
- KCTC Students are expected to attend classes

Additionally, the weighting of the semester grades will be altered to 50% the first semester summative grade and 50% the second semester summative grade, as appropriate. Report cards will go out the following Friday.

Benchmark Testing: Michigan schools are required to administer benchmark assessments to all K-8 students. This includes students in the fully online program/Edgenuity. Over the next 3 weeks all K-8 students will be administered the NWEA MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) growth assessments. The parents of students taking the online program are asked to schedule times for testing when called upon by our staff.

Online/Edgenuity School for Second Semester

K-8 Edgenuity Courses

After having experiences with the Edgenuity program and course offerings, our school will establish courses for K-8 grade levels. The exception is 7th grade who will have an elective option. All Elementary and MS students will have a fitness course and K-5 students will also take a course in health, Listed below are the K-8 Edgenuity courses for the 2nd semester. Please contact Mr. Kasmer (mkasmer@byroncentercharter.org) if there are questions.

K-5 Courses

4 Core (ELA, Math , Science and Social Studies), Basic Fitness and Health.

6th Grade Courses

4 Core , PE and Basic Music

7th Grade Courses

4 Core, Basic Fitness and with Digital Art and Design or Exploring Music

8th Grade Courses

4 Core, Spanish and Basic Fitness

K-5 Edgenuity Workbooks

Last semester we purchased hard copy workbooks in the core subject areas (ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies) for each BCCS K-5 student.

- K-3: The k-3 workbooks were not in color and that problematic for the students with certain lessons. So this semester we will make and distribute colored copies or the workbooks in the core subject areas for each student. Parents will be contacted when available for pick-up.
- 4-5: We learned the 4th and 5th grade workbooks are not necessary and will not be purchased in the 2nd semester. The pages are available electronically as fillable PDFs within the Edgenuity platform. Please note, when students click on the “Activity” button, the worksheet will open up in a web browser. It’s important that students save the PDF first before they start their work. If they complete work right in the web browser, and something happens (computer restart, for example), the work will not be saved.

HS Edgenuity Courses

The process of online course selection for HS students is conducted on an individual basis with the school counselor. All course selections must be in line with the sequence of BCCS course offerings and those needed for graduation. Please contact Mrs. Cravino (hcravino@byroncentercharter.org) if there are questions.

School Calendar of Events

Thursday, 1/14 PTO Meeting Cancelled

Tuesday Jan 19. Virtual BOE Meeting

Wed-Fri, Jan 20-22 ½ days, dismissal 11:15-20

- Grab and go lunches available
- Childcare continues
- No extended day/tutoring HS and MS
- End of 1st semester

Wed-Thu Jan 20-21, Teacher Professional Development

Monday, January 25, Start of 2nd Semester

Friday, January 29, Report cards go home

Student Awards and Recognitions

December Student of the Month

K-2 Torrance Heintz

3-5 Gracie Pike

6-8 Tiri DeVries

9-12: Daniel Jones

Character Recognitions for Joyfulness

K Grant Smith

1st Aeris Leyrer Simon Apotheker

2nd Adam Palasek Fiona Bolt

3rd Caleb Friedman Zavian VanNoy

4th Alexandra Beverwyk Riley Balfort John Duncan

5th Zaryk Fekete, Ella Gregorski Nolan Bolt Rebecca Rocheleau

MS Tori DeVries Sam Anderson Lia Franson Kamren Moomey Brianna Hoort

Iam Emmelkamp Grace Duncan, Lacey Elliott Ava Schrontz Jack Syswerda,

Morgan Polmanteer Alydiah Coffey Amelia Pike Natalie Searl

HS Emily Schrontz Ginger Bosscher, Logan Timmer Alicia Verburg, Joshua Hoppe

Rachel Steffen, Gracie Leys, Jacob Netti, Sam Solis Sophie Netti, Joz Cashman

Sarah Solis

Good Job, Well Done Students!!!!

Closing

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy New Year. As always I ask that we stay connected and in communication with one another. As I have said before, feedback is the breakfast of champions. We must continue to work in unison to weather this storm. There is a light at the end of this tunnel (the last 9 months of school) and we can and will end-up in a good place as long as we continue to put in the time and effort, stay in touch with one another and stay focused on the prize....the success of our students!