



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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9/24/21

Dear Parents /Guardians of BCCS Students,

I hope your school year is off to a great start. Hard to believe we are entering the 5th week of school. At this time students should have command of the school expectations and have established routines at home to meet them.

Here are a few timely updates for your awareness and consideration, and please plan on receiving the October Newsletter next Friday, 10/1.

Welcome Miss Lindquist! This past week we added a part-time Nurse Aide to the school staff. Miss Tara Linqvist. Tara comes to us as a CPR/First Aid and Fitness Instructor from the GR YMCA. She has been in the fitness and wellness business for over 25 years.

COVID Update:

COVID Cases in BCCS :There have been 3 staff and 3 students who tested positive for COVID-19. Miss Lindquist and school administration conducted the contact tracing and have communicated with those considered close contacts.

MDHHS Updated Protocol for Close Contacts: The MDHHS recently released new guidance to schools regarding protocols for students considered to be close contact in the school setting ([HERE](#)). In most cases the students can remain in school without having to quarantine under certain conditions. Those conditions are dependent on masking, distancing, vaccination and symptoms of students and staff.

Rapid Testing NOW Available at School: BCCS recently secured rapid tests through KCHD and Kent ISD. Miss Lindquist is a trained test administrator. If parents are concerned about their children possibly having COVID or possibly having been in close contact with a COVID + person, we encourage you to contact Miss Lindquist to problem solve the situation and possibly access the rapid tests.

(tlindquist@byroncentercharter.org or call office at 878-4852)

Upcoming Events

Mid-High Harvest Dance: We will not hold the Harvest Dance due to recommendations of indoor activities in the school setting.

Muffin Monday: will be reinstated beginning Oct. 4. Student orders will be taken next week.

Student Council: Mid-High Student Council will be reinstated this fall. Information is shared with students by Teacher Rep. Mrs. Walenta. Please encourage your children to consider this worthwhile experience.

Fall Conferences: We will hold in-person parent teacher conferences on October 14. We request participants to wear masks if able.

Calls for Your Help

Vandalism: you may have heard that schools across the country are having to deal with students vandalizing and/or stealing school materials then posting under a *devious licks* hashtag to TikTok or other social media sites. Most vandalism occurs in school restrooms. Unfortunately, BCCS has experienced 3 incidents.

These actions are truly hard to understand and accept in our school. This activity is illegal, expensive, and just plain wrong. Parents are asked to actively monitor their children's cell phones and report any concerns to school administration. Any student engaging in this activity will be held responsible for any replacement /repair costs paid, will lose cell phone privileges at the school and will be reported to local authorities, at a minimum. Your cooperation and support is needed.

No Put Down Zone: Please join us in reminding students that this school is a No Put Down Zone. All members of the BCCS School Community are asked to refrain from name calling and putting down others in the school setting. Simply put, Put Downs have a negative impact on student learning, are often hurtful and are inconsistent with our school's mission..... specifically the expectation of a school culture that helps to build positive character traits in BCCS students.

Porter Contest Winners Recognized: As in the past, the school-wide annual No Put Down poster contest was held at the start of the school year. The winning students will receive drawing/art supplies and will have their award winning posters strategically placed in the building.

Congratulations and Good Job Well Done to:

Miriam Apotheker Grade 5 (K-5 group)

Emily Uminn Grade 6 (6-12 group)



Closing

We certainly recognize that we are all still dealing with the COVID pandemic, yet please note that we continue to move toward normalcy in the school setting. While some events may be adapted, BCCS is making a concerted effort to bring back school events and activities as much as we are able under the current restrictions and guidance from our governing agencies.

I continue to ask for your confidence, trust and flexibility as we navigate the current realities. I also ask that we all keep a relaxed heart and positive outlook knowing that we will do our best to provide quality and ongoing face to face educational programs and services to your children.

Please keep the lines of communication open, and contact the appropriate school personnel if you have questions or need clarifying information. The home school connection is vital to an effective school. MK