



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

9930 Burlingame Ave. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315 Mark Kasmer, Principal
Phone: (616) 878-4852 - Fax: (616) 878-7196 Email: office@byroncentercharter.org

BCCS March 2022 Newsletter
2/28/22

Dear Parents/Guardians of BCCS K-12 Students,
Historically February, and March tend to be the most productive months in school. Education-related routines in the home and school are established and well-understood, and students and teachers seem to settle-in with a heightened focus on student skill and knowledge development. Coming up on the two year anniversary of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the usual continues to be unusual. Even though COVID cases are substantially dropping, the pandemic continues to impact the school environment and influence day to day activity. The link to the latest BCCS Prevention and Mitigation Plan sent to families last Friday is below. We all share the desire to get our school back to business as usual, yet patience and understanding is needed by all as the transition to normalcy will likely be cautiously slower than desired. Your continued awareness and active support are needed, recognized and appreciated.

School Values

Ours 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. These are perceived areas of strength in our school's culture. By definition courtesy is a person's attitude and/or behavior toward others that is considered to be polite and caring. Respect is viewed as beliefs and actions that show admiration of qualities/abilities in oneself and/or others. Most of us agree that courteous and respectful people are 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

2022-23 Enrollment: Paperwork for the 2022-23 school year will be sent home with families during conferences. Links to general registration information and the administrative guidelines are below. To secure your spot for the 2022-23 school year, the enrollment paperwork must be submitted by April 15.

- [Open Enrollment Announcement](#)
- [Enrollment Initiative Program](#)
- [Enrollment Administrative Guidelines](#)

Updated COVID-19 Information

- [Updated BCCS COVID PLAN 2/25](#)
- [BCCS WEEKLY COVID DATA](#)
- Rapid tests are available at school and parents are encouraged to request that their students be tested as needed.

School News

Parent/Teacher Conferences: In person conferences are to be held on Thursday March 10 from 12:30-8:00. Parents are to use the following document to schedule the conferences. Directions are located at the end of the document: [2021-22 Spring Conference Links](#)

P/T Conference Guidelines

Two Tiered Registration Timelines

- *Priority Registration:* Opens Wednesday, March 2
- All Parent Registration Opens: Friday, March 3
- Tuesday, March 8: requested date for all conferences to be scheduled

****Priority Registration* is intended for Parents of Students with Disabilities, students with 504 Plans and those having multiple students in the school***

Things to Remember When Scheduling Conferences.....

K-12

- When registering for a conference, be sure to save/submit
- If scheduling from your phone, make sure the phone setting is in the Eastern time zone.

6-12

- Parents having more than one student with a Mid-High Teacher are requested to sign-up for multiple slots (IE 2 students schedule 2 conference times, 3 students schedule 3 conference times with same teacher)
- Parents who change a scheduled conference time need to cancel the first conference time before registering a new conference time

PTO Book Fair: PTO is sponsoring a Spring Book Fair. The fair will be held in the gym from 11:30-7:30. Students will preview books prior to the event.

Mid-High Progress Reports: 3rd quarter progress reports will be sent home with all Middle and High School students this week, Wednesday, March 2. Please review with your children, sign and return with your child to designated teachers.

March is Reading Month: March is National Reading Month and a time for all to celebrate reading. Super Reading Heros.... that features competitions, events and activities to promote and celebrate reading. BCCS will hold the virtual kick-off today Monday, Feb. 28. Check-out the activities below and participate.

Have fun and good luck!

- [Kickoff](#) How Fun!!!
- [Overview](#) Be Aware!
- [Reading Month Calendar](#) Get Involved!
- [Weekly Reading Forms](#) Read,Read, Read!

Calendar Highlights

- Monday February 28, Reading Month Kick-off
- Tuesdays & Thursdays , March 1,3,8,10,15,17,22, 24 and 29
 - Mid-High Extended Day Tutoring
 - Jazz Band
- Wednesdays ,March 2,10,16,23, and 30: Skills Training, Mrs. Schmidt, KCHD
 - March 30 Last Day
- Wednesday March 2, Progress Reports Go Home
- Thursday, March 3, PTO Meeting 3:30, Science Room
- Monday, March 7, Muffin Monday, orders due by Thursday 3/3
- Thursday, March 10 Parent Teacher Conferences:
 - Grab-n-Go Lunches
 - ½ Day of School 11:15-20 Student Release
 - No After School Tutoring
 - PTO Bookfair 11:30-7:30
- Friday, March 11: No School
- Sunday, March 13, Spring Forward..... Daylight Savings Time Begins
- Tuesday, March 15, Board of Education Meeting 6-7:30
- Tuesdays and Thursdays March 15, 15,17,22,24 & 29 Girls on the run 3:15-4:45
- Thursday, March 22 Kindergarten Round-up/Open House ****RESCHEDULED****
 - **Kindergarten Round-up Tuesday, April 19 from 6:30-7:30**
 - **Open House, Thursday April 28 from 6:30-7:30**
- Friday, March 25, End of 3rd Quarter
 - Hat Day for \$1, supports the LINKS and the HS Transition Program
- Tuesday, March 29 Skate Night
- Wednesday, March 30, Report Cards go home
- Thursday, March 30 Festival of the ArtsInformation forthcoming
- Friday, April 1st, No School, Start of Spring Break

FYI

- Monday - Friday April 4-8 Spring Break
- Monday, April 11, School Resumes
- Wednesday 4/13, SAT/PSAT Testing
 - **No School Seniors: College and Career Preparation and Readiness Day (see Counselors Chair below)**

Student Recognitions and Awards

Mid-High Band Festival: We recognize our MS and HS bands who performed at Festival this past Thursday and Godwin HS Keeping up with our tradition of excellent bands the BCCS HS received a 2, Excellent Rating, and MS received a 3, Good Rating. Good Job, Well Done Mrs. Holstege and students...we are proud of your accomplishments.

Michigan Band and Orchestra Association Festival: Congratulations to Ian Emmelkamp who was awarded a First Division Rating for his trumpet solo on February 12 at Fennville HS. Good Job, Ian!

Ship Shape Awards:

- 1/31 = 2nd Grade
- 2/7 = 3rd Grade
- 2/14 = 3rd Grade
- 2/21 = 3rd Grade

Thanks for showing your care for our school!

Counselors Chair

Senior College and Career Readiness Day

Nurses Corner

Vision and Hearing Screening: The KCHD conducted Vision (grds 1,3,5,7 &9) and Hearing (grds K,2 & 4) Screenings for BCCS students on Friday, February 18. There will also be a reschedule date set, due to the number of absences. A health department representative will contact the parents of any student of concern.

News You Can Use

GVSU announced new scholarships for students who graduate from your schools and come to GVSU. In short, your current and future alumni could be awarded up to \$4,000 through the GV Charter Schools Alumni Scholarship.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has launched the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a benefit program now open for enrollment that helps households afford broadband. Eligible households may now apply to receive up to a \$30 per month discount off the price of their service and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. You can check eligibility on the ACP's enrollment page.

In Closing....

Please be aware that, as with all schools, our school is preparing to administer the annual state assessments. With the exception of WIDA and the Kindergarten Entrance Assessment, the administration of state assessments begins in April and runs through mid-May. Initial awareness and preparation information will begin to come home in the next few weeks, yet the most valuable actions in the home are awareness and preparation to include:

- Be aware of test dates and what tests will be administered for your children
- 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

Incidentally, our school has been recognized by the GVSU Charter School's Office as one of the schools who showed a substantially higher percentage of student proficiency on state tests in certain areas....good, job, well done!

State assessment data are used as the primary indicator for the State of Michigan School Accountability and Performance Ratings. As always, your consideration and support is appreciated.

W/ Care, MK