



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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10/28/22

Dear Parents of BCCS K-12 Students,

This week marks the end of the first quarter for the 2022-23 school year. With days getting shorter and nights getting longer....and colder... school age students tend to not want to get-up in the morning as easily. From personal experience, this can create a bit of tension in the home with preparation and being on time for school. As noted last year, BCCS has a greater percentage of students who are chronically absent and/or tardy than the percentage of like students in the county and across the state. Please know that tardies and absences are hard on the individual student, their peers, the teachers and frankly create stress on the entire school system. Recognizing the dependence on the home to get the students to and from BCCS, parents are asked to make school attendance a priority in the home. A few considerations include:

- having students here 15-20 minutes before start time if parents intend to have them eat breakfast at school.
- having students' school materials/resources packed and ready to go when they enter the building.
- establishing routines in the home that make daily school readiness a priority. *Regular and on-time school attendance increases the likelihood of a positive BCCS experience for all stakeholders. Your consideration is needed and appreciated.*

Character Traits Celebrated

The character trait BCCS highlights during the month of November is APPRECIATION. A demonstration of appreciation from one person to another is often considered an expression of gratitude. Most often, appreciation acknowledges the good in people. Incidentally, showing appreciation is known to reduce stress and is a fundamental principle in building positive personal relationships: an important pillar of our school's mission.

As members of the BCCS school community, we are to look for opportunities that bring appreciation into the culture of our school. Soooo, let's seek ways to show our appreciation of one another.

From the Office

Additional Support and Learning Opportunities: Our school is committed to providing quality supplemental support programs and services to the BCCS students. On the heels of the pandemic, perhaps there is no greater time to offer our BCCS families extended and well-rounded educational experiences that address *learning loss, the loss of learning opportunities, and yes, the social and emotional learning, mental health, wellness and safety of students*. By all metrics of school performance, the negative impact of COVID in schools is real and noteworthy. Compounding matters is the diminished availability of trained and certified professionals in the field of education. However, it is important to know that our school is working diligently with area and regional educational

organizations to address the challenges before us. In addition to the ESSER funding granted to all schools, our school has applied for a series of grants to increase funding for additional learning opportunities for our students, and for school safety. In particular, I share two informational items regarding ESSER grants:

1. Learning Loss Focus Areas : A list of priority areas for use of funding to address learning loss.

These have been posted to our website @ [LINK](#)

2. Sec 98 c Grant Funding Proposal: BCCS has applied for additional funding to specifically target designated K-5 students for extra help in Literacy. The proposal was brought before the School Board and is posted to our website @ [LINK](#)

Stay tuned for additional information once the grant awards are realized!

Other BCCS Educational Options Include.....

Mid-High Extended Day Programming: BCCS has offered students designated as at-risk the opportunity to have extended day/after school support services in grades 6 through 12. Teachers have begun the 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.

ART Club Open to students grades 6-12. Contact: Miss Pham
tpham@byroncentercharter.org

DRUM SET EXPLORATION Open to students grade 7-12. Contact: Mrs. Holstege
cholstege@byroncentercharter.org

SKI/SNOWBOARDING CLUB Open to students 7 years or older. Contact Mrs. Cravino
hcravino@byroncentercharter.org

School Information

End of Marking Period: Today, (Friday, 10/28) is the last day of the first marking period. Report cards will be sent home with students next Friday.

MS Cross Country Meet: 7th Annual MIHS Cross Country Championships will be held tomorrow, Saturday, October 29th. Good Luck Golden Eagles!

- Location: Allendale High School, 10760 68th Avenue. Allendale, MI 49401 ●

Start Times:

- Boys 4:15pm
- Girls 4:45pm

Please plan to have your runners present 30 minutes before their start time. The race starts outside of the track, and our flag will be set up behind the grandstand seating for the track. Please be Advised: Spectator cars may park in the lots south or northwest of the high school. A spectator fee is anticipated to be \$6 or \$5 dollars per person with a maximum of \$15 per car. CC runners do not need to pay this fee.

Halloween Revisited: Only Kindergarten through 3rd Grade students are allowed to put-on and wear costumes at the end of the school day if they would like. Costumes may not be worn to school, rather, may be brought in a bag. During the last hour of the day teachers will invite students to put-on their costumes and parade through the Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade rooms, followed by a small Halloween celebration (treat provided by PTO). All other grades will maintain their normal daily schedules. Specific notification and details will be sent home to parents of K-3 students.

Blood Drive: Our first blood drive is coming up **next week Wednesday, November 2 from 1-5 p.m. in the gym**. The entire process takes about an hour and has the potential to save up to 3 lives. Go to <https://bit.ly/savelivesNov2> to sign up. Contact Mr. Emmelkamp with questions at bemmelkamp@byroncentercharter.org

If you haven't given before but have always been tempted, see below for an exciting incentive. Please read carefully.

In an effort to attract more first time donors who schedule and attempt a first-time whole blood or red cell donation with us will receive a \$25.00 e-gift card. An appointment is required and must be scheduled online.

WHO: Individuals who have NEVER donated or attempted a donation with Versiti or the prior affiliates.

- Must have a valid email address on file to receive the e-gift card. Card link expires in 30 days. ●
 - Donors will receive an email 7 business days after their donation with a link to redeem the gift. ●
- Email Sender:** Versiti Blood Center of Michigan <noreply@tangocard.com>; **Subject Line:** Enjoy your eGift Card from Versiti Blood Center of Michigan.

PROMO CODE: TREAT must be added to the appt notes.

Food Drive Competition: Byron Center Charter School's Student Council will be holding their annual food drive competition. Non-perishable food items can be brought in Tuesday, 11/1, thru Friday, 11/18. The collections will support the local Buist 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 THANK YOU!

November Calendar Highlights

Tuesday, Nov 1st-18th - Student Council Annual Canned Food Drive

Wednesday, Nov 2 /Blood Drive 1pm-5pm BCCS gym

Friday, Nov 4

- Eagle Assembly
- Report Cards Sent Home

- Ultimate Frisbee
- Mather Son Night : Postponed until February...

Monday, Nov 7/ Muffin Monday

Wednesday, Nov 9 /10th Grade Field Trip

Thursday, Nov 10/ 3:30 PTO Meeting

Friday, Nov 11/Popcorn Sale

Wednesday, Nov 16/ 10th Grade Field Trip (Griffin's Game)

- 9th Grade Field Trip

Friday, Nov 18/ Hat Day - \$1

- Last Day for Canned Food Drive

Monday, Nov 21 Hearing and Vision Rescreening

Wed-Fri, Nov 23-25/ Thanksgiving Recess = No School

Monday, Nov 28 School Resumes

News From the.....

Counselors Chair:Seniors - As November is around the corner, it is important to finish up college visits and college applications. Once you have finished your application, let Mrs Cravino know so she can send in your transcript. Financial Aid is a critical component of attending college. In order to receive financial aid, parents and seniors need to complete the FAFSA. FAFSA website is studentaid.gov/fafsa. Be sure to create an account and apply for your PIN before the end of the year. Nurses Corner: Hello Families! By now we've all been hearing in the news about the concern of a "tridemic" (influenza, RSV, and COVID). We are seeing an uptick in student absences due to many common viruses that have been around also. Several symptoms we can manage at home, however, you may wonder when to go to the doctor, when to go to an urgent care or when to go to an ER. I am attaching a list ([LINK](#)) as a guideline to help answer some of your questions .As always, proper handwashing, good sleep, proper nutrition/vitamins are a great defense! Please also keep children home if they have had a fever or vomiting within the last 24 hours.

Student Recognitions and Awards

Mid-High Band Recognitions

- Congrats to Mrs. Holstege and the Mid-High Bands for their successful Fall Concert this past Thursday evening.
- BCCS Recognizes 4 of our band members for being selected to the High School Honors Band through Calvin University:
 - Mary Anderson
 - Ian Immelkamp
 - Colton Pitch
 - Ava Syswerda

Selected students are offered to play at a special concert on Nov. 2nd, 7pm at Calvin University. Everyone is welcome to attend!

BCCS Student Council Pumpkin Carving Contest Winners

- Funniest : Kinsley Duncan , 'Googly Eyes'

- Spookiest: Hanna Peterson/, *'Splitting Headache'*
- Most Creative: Ian Emmelkamp, *'Pirates of the Carribean'*

Thanks for sharing your talents!

Ship-Shape Awards

October 6 = Grade 5

October 13 & 20 Combined = Grade 4

October 27 = Grade 3

Appreciate the care for our school!

News You Can Use

FALL BACK: Please do not forget to set clocks back next Saturday (Nov. 5th) at midnight as this marks the end of daylight savings time until March 2022.

Governor's Feedback Requested: Last Month Governor Whitmer created the [Michigan's Parent Council](#) and is inviting all Michigan parents of pre-K – 12 students to share their feedback through the MI Parent Survey. Now's your chance to add your voice to the conversation around what's working well in your schools and what investments you'd like to see in the future. The survey takes about 6 minutes to complete and is available in English, Spanish, and Arabic. [Michigan Parent Survey](#)

Halloween Parental Notice: Across the country, schools are asked to share a note of caution to school-age families who participate in Trick-Or-Treating. Please be aware there are some *'bad actors'* known to tamper with candy putting children at risk of serious injury. Parents are highly reminded to inspect and discard any candy believed to have been tampered with, and to report any known harmful tampering with candy to local authorities.

In Closing....

Our small but mighty school continues to do and offer great things. With the issuance of report cards next week, please take this opportunity to speak to each child about their performance report for the first quarter of the 2022-23 school year: recognize achievements and constructively challenge areas of improvement.

As a school, our effectiveness is based upon the work of the students. And their effectiveness is highly influenced by the school home connection. Let us continue to build and strengthen our relationship, and our focus and commitment toward student achievement. Let us all actively carry out our roles and guide students to success. Have a wonderful weekend...MK