

Dec 22 Newsletter

Dear Parents/Guardians of BCCS K-12 Students,

This year is flying by as it is hard to fathom we are encroaching upon the year 2023. One week ago the state of Michigan released the School Index Rating to all public schools in the state of Michigan. These ratings are a portion of the state's accreditation of schools. Once again, I am happy to report that BCCS continues to show better than average ratings in almost all performance categories. This is especially true with the performance on state and national tests. A copy of the BCCS school index rating can be found [BCCS 21-22 School Index](#). The website to access is [HERE](#) where prior year ratings, specific data and comparison to other schools (encouraged) can be found. Finally, information about Michigan's School Index can be found in the [School Index Guide](#). Soooo,..... Good Job, Well Done to this small but mighty school.

### **Positive Character Traits in Action**

The character trait highlighted during the month of December is Joyfulness. Joy is an emotion that is quite noticeable and contagious. It is traditional for many of us to share expressions of joy during the Holiday/Christmas season. Isn't it delightful that we celebrate this personal quality? Many would agree that being in a state of well-being and happiness is good for our culture and what better place to start than with our children. As a member of the BCCS school community, we are called to seek opportunities to bring joyfulness into the atmosphere of the building. So, choose joy, as this is an important character trait to share among our school family.

### **From the Office**

#### **Attendance**

As parents/guardians and HS students of BCCS, the expectations and protocols for attendance should be understood and followed. It is realized as a result of the pandemic, the last couple years have been different. Frankly these expectations have been overlooked, and rightfully so. However, at this time the impact of COVID is relatively insignificant, and we as a school are obligated to carry-out the policies of the school Board of Education and comply with the regulations of the State of Michigan. Parents/guardians and HS students are encouraged to reacquaint themselves with these school's expectations of student attendance. See [Student Handbook](#) pgs. 8-11 for school policy and protocols.

#### **HS Attendance and Course Credit**

By School Policy, any HS student who has more than 10 absences in a semester will not be issued credit for the course. Tardies are also impactful as every 3 tardies equates to an additional absence in that class. Please refer to pg, 8-11 in the student handbook.

Our school believes attendance should not be the sole reason students do not receive credit; therefore, BCCS offers students an opportunity to make-up time for absences.

Students may attend the extended day program Tuesdays and Thursdays to make up hours for absences. A student may receive 1 hr of time for each day he/she attends the extended day program. All dates attended during that semester can be used toward make-up time. Please be reminded each day attended equates to one hour make-up time in one class: if a student has

11 absences in 6 classes, then 6 hours of make-up time are required to obtain credit for all courses.

It is the student's and parent's responsibility to monitor and track attendance, and request to stay after school as make-up time for credit. Parents and students should monitor attendance and request for make-up time when needed.

Students who have absences due to COVID, and/or as a result of being hospitalized or required treatment for a verified medical or mental health condition may petition the school to omit those absences. This must be done in writing by the student's parent/guardian and include the dates, along with the appropriate documentation from the service provider if not already on file with the school.

## School News

### Key Cards For Sale

The 10th/11th grade classes are raising funds for their Washington D.C. trip next year by selling KeyCards. These books provide discounts to hundreds of area businesses and pay themselves off quickly. They also make the perfect holiday gift. They can be purchased for \$30; contact any 10th/11th grade student or Mr. Emmelkamp at [bemmelkamp@byroncentercharter.org](mailto:bemmelkamp@byroncentercharter.org).

### Hat and Mitten Tree

We would like to decorate the tree, in the main hall, with hats and mittens/gloves for children in need. These items should be new. We will be donating these items to *In the Image*, an organization that helps families in need in the Wyoming, Kentwood, and Grand Rapids areas. Please help decorate our tree to keep children warm this winter. We will be collecting these items until December 16. Thank you for helping others in our community! If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Timmerman (BCCS First Grade Teacher) [ptimmerman@byroncentercharter.org](mailto:ptimmerman@byroncentercharter.org)

### Girls On The Run (GATOR)

GOTR registration opened on Thursday, Dec 1 and we would love to have girls in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade sign up. The program starts February 28. We will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:15-4:30 and end with a 5K on Saturday, May 20. See [GOTOR FLYER](#) for details. Registration can be accessed via our website <https://www.gotrwm.org/> or this link: [2023 Girl Registration Link](#)

### Student Council News and Notes

Candy Cane/Hot Cocoa Grams Sale: **December 5th-9th:** Send a Candy Cane and/or Hot Cocoa packet to your child or any BCCS student or staff member. Cost: \$1 for each item/\$2 for both. Choose candy cane, hot chocolate, or both. Candy Grams will be delivered on Thursday, December 17th.

Mid High Dance: On Saturday, Dec 10 from 7-10:00 Mid high students are welcome to attend the 80s theme dance. Tickets can be bought on Wednesday and Thursday, see your student council representativ. HS Guest Pass requests are due by Wednesday, Dec 7.

Gingerbread House Decorating Contest 12/15: Grades 6-10, all students need to have a signed permission slip by their parents, these need to be turned in no later than 12/13. Permission slips can be obtained from Mr. Emmellkamp.

**Nurses Corner** How great is it to have an easy tool to help minimize the risks for respiratory infections to the people around you?! For example: flu, flu-like illness, adenovirus, RSV, common cold, conjunctivitis, pharyngitis, tonsillitis, bronchitis, bronchiolitis, pneumonia, streptococcus, pneumococcus, TB and more.

DECEMBER 4-10 is NATIONAL HANDWASHING AWARENESS WEEK! The T Zone (eyes, nose and mouth) is the only portal of entry into the human body for ALL respiratory infections!

The 4 Principles of Hand Awareness:

1. WASH your hands when they are dirty and BEFORE eating. Wash for AT LEAST 20 seconds with water AND soap! Don't skip the soap part friends!
2. DO NOT cough into your hands.
3. DO NOT sneeze into your hands.
4. Above all, DO NOT put your fingers into your eyes, nose, or mouth.

Stay healthy BCCS community!

### **School Calendar Highlights**

Dec 5 Muffin Monday

Dec 5-12 Candy Cane/Hot Chocolate Sale

Dev 7 Mid-High Progress Reports

Dec 8-9 PTO Holiday Shoppe Art Room

Dec 10 Mid High Dance 7-10pm

Dec. 13 Winter Mid-High Band Concert 7:00 Godfrey Lee HS

Dec 15

- Gingerbread House Decorating Contest grades 6-12, from 3:15-4:30
  - **NO MID HIGH EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM/Tutoring**
  - **NO JAZZ Band**
- Candy Cane Hot Cocoa Delivery
- Elementary Holiday Parties last hour

Dec 16 HS Gift Exchange

Dec. 17-Jan 2 Holiday/Christmas Break

Jan. 3, Tuesday, SCHOOL RESUMES....Happy New Year!

## Student Recognitions and Awards

### Food Drive Results: Buist Community Center

- Grand Total: 1305 LBS of Food... WOW ! Way to show care for our community BCCS!
- Contest Winners
  - K-5 = 133 pnts.
  - 6-12= 629 pnts.

*\*\* We celebrate the gift of giving\*\**

### 1st Quarter Honor Roll

#### MS A/B Honors:

Miriam Apotheker, Lexi Beverwyk, Liam Borsk, Symone Brown, Camden Cashman, Kaiden Coffey, Lacey Elliott, Lia Franson, Mackenzie Hollis, Bayley Houghmaster, Serenity Mileki, Kylee Mulder, Hanna Peterson, Bella Stogsdill, Ellie VanDussen, Elina Wirsma

#### MS All A Honors:

Lilly Bauer, Nolan Bolt, Annika Emmelkamp, Sorren Gillikin, Ella Gregorski, McKenna Lang, Emma Grace Marias, Cody VanDussen

#### HS AB Honors:

Kinzie Anderson, Tate Anderson, Elijah Coffey, Tori DeVries, Ian Emmelkamp, Rhys Houda, Hannah Schneider, Ava Syswerda, Ethan Uminn, Gabriella Verburg

#### HS All A Honors

Mary Jane Anderson, Sarah Buchanan, Molly DeVries, Grace Duncan, Ella Franson, Amelia Schmidt, Joselyn VanDussen

*\*\* Congratulations to BCCS Academic Honors\*\**

### Student of the Month

#### K-2

- Carter Donegan

#### 3-5

- Aaron Commons

#### 6-8

- Lilly Bauer

#### 9-12

- Ava Syswerda

*\*\*\* Good Job, Well Done!\*\*\**

### November Character Trait Recognitions

Kindergarten: Emily Higley

First Grade: Roman Campos, Hailey Gonzalez

Second Grade: Soraya VanNoy, Aeris Leyrer

Third Grade: Liam Stratton, Alanah Marais

4th Grade: Maxwell Brown, Cheyenne Drier, Ally Houghmaster

5th Grade: Noah Fisch, Addison Cox, Torrance Heintz

Middle School: Josh Hoort, Elina Wiersma, John Duncan, William Borsk,  
Ellie VanDussen

High School: Amelia Schmidt, Hannah Schneider, Mary Anderson, Ethan Uminn,  
Joselyn VanDussen, Braedon Duncan, Katelyn Keetch, Ella Franson, Matthew Nixon,  
Colton Pitch

*\*\* You are Recognized and Appreciated\*\**

### **Middle School Solo and Ensemble Recognitions**

#### Superior Rating

- BCCS Trio: Rebekah Rocheleau, Bayley Houghmaster, and Hanna Peterson

#### Excellent Rating:

- BCCS Quartet: Annika Emmelkamp Ella Gregorski, Hanna Peterson, and McKenna Lang
- BCCS Duet: Rebekah Rocheleau, Bayley Houghmaster. Excellent Rating for Duet

*\*\* Congrats....Keeping the Tradition of Excellence in BCCS Music \*\*\**

### **Ship Shape Awards**

Nov 4 = 2nd Grade

Nov 11 = 4th Grade

Nov18 = 4th Grade

Dec 2 = 3rd Grade

*\*\* Thank you for taking care of our school!\*\**

Closing.....

At this time of year I hope that all members of the BCC School Community experience the best of holiday seasons with family and friends. Please know that our school seeks to add to the joyfulness of the season... after all it is the character trait we recognize and celebrate this month. Last night's concert was a great opening to the season for me and I hope for those who attended as well. Today's assembly also provided the students and staff a great backdrop for the school's contributions to the spirit of the season. Let's all join in making these next two weeks a quality and joyful experience for all. MK