



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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1/6/23

Dear Parents /Guardians of BCCS K-12 Students,

On behalf of all BCCS Faculty and Staff, Happy New Year! I hope that all of you took full advantage of and truly enjoyed the holiday season over the past 2 weeks. WOW ...2023...it also is hard to believe we are within 3 weeks of the end of the first semester for the 2022-23 school year. At this time the school has received their annual accreditation status and MDE ratings for the past year. BCCS parents and the general public can obtain school performance information and compare schools through the information provided on the [School Accountability web page](#). Specifically, the two primary performance rating systems for Michigan Public Schools are [School Grades](#) and [School Index](#). Once again, our 'Small But Mighty' school has demonstrated above average performance when compared to state, county and like school cohorts. In fact, we were recognized as a REWARD SCHOOL (see school grades), indicating we received an "A" rating in student performance as compared to schools and with our graduation rates for the 2022-23 school year. This is the second time we received this designation in the past 5 years...not by happenstance folks, Good Job, Well Done to all members of the BCCS Education Community.

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. In the spirit of 'walking the talk', examples of schoolwide activity include the annual Hat and Mitten tree where by students and staff donated 44 winter items to In The Image, the BCCS annual Food Drive during November where student and staff donate 1,305 lbs. of food to the Buist Community Center food pantry, and we are to hold the second of the 22-23 school year and much needed Blood Drive in February. 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 demonstrated in action, name it, and stress the potential good that comes from the activity with your child(ren). 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

School Closings Communications: The primary media source for BCCS school closure information will be posted to woodtv.com, the WOODTV app and social media sites (WOODTV8, WOODTV4 and WXSP). Parents can also sign-up to be alerted by text or email through the [WOODTV Closing and Delays](#) (scroll down to weather tools on the right side). Secondary media outlets for reporting closures are Fox 17 and WZZM 13.

REMIND: All families are highly encouraged to sign-up for the REMIND text message system. BCCS uses this system for multiple communication purposes. Every family received the method to register in the annual packet of information folder, or you can email Mrs. Boersma at kboersma@byroncentercharter.org and request to have her set-up the application for you....be sure to include the phone number you wish to receive the text to.

Annual Education Report: Upon the anticipated Board of Education approval on January 17, BCCS will post the 2021-22 Annual Education Report (AER) to the school's website. The AER provides a series of informational items regarding the school's performance including student assessment, state accountability and teacher quality. Please be reminded that due to the pandemic, there is limited data from the 2019-20 school year (IE no state assessment data). 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 administer mid-high exams Wednesday-Friday (Jan. 18-20). The following communicates the schedule .

- Wednesday -Friday half days (11:15-20 dismissal)
 - * Wednesday 1st and 6th hrs.
 - * Thursday 2nd and 5th hrs.
 - * Friday 3rd and 4th hrs.
- Grab-n-Go lunches are available to all students who order.
- KCTC Students are expected to attend classes at the ISD on these dates.
- Semester 1 / 2nd qtr. Report Cards will be sent home the following Friday.

Benchmark Testing: Over the next month all K-8 students will be administered the NWEA MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) growth assessments. Growth reports will be shared with parents during spring parent/teacher conferences. Additionally all K-3 students and students receiving Title I services in grades 4 and 5 will be administered individual Fountas and Pinnell (F&P) tests to monitor reading growth and program effectiveness.

Counselor's Chair

Community Service - Community service is a great way to give back to our community. One of the high school graduation requirements is to complete 45 hours of community service. If you need help finding places to volunteer, see Mrs Cravino.

Ski Club - Due to the lack of snow, we will be canceling our outing for January 10. We will plan to go January 26, assuming there is enough snow.

Nurses Corner

Communicable Disease Reporting Reminder: Please be reminded that schools must report any communicable disease activity with k-12 students to their local health departments. This includes positive COVID cases of which the school will also conduct contract tracing protocols.

COVID Tests: Please be reminded that we have COVID tests that can be sent home for BCCS students and/or household members, or tests can be administered at school as requested.

Please contact me with any school related medical questions at thouda@byroncentercharter.org

School Calendar Update

Updated BCCS 2022-23 Events Calendar [HERE](#)

Student Extra-Curricular Reminders

[ART Club](#) Open to students grades 6-12. Contact: Miss Pham tpham@byroncentercharter.org

[SKI/SNOWBOARDING CLUB](#) Open to BCCS students 7 years or older. Contact Mrs.Cravino hcravino@byroncentercharter.org

RE-introducing BCCS Game Night : It's been a while, yet BCCS is bringing back GAME NIGHT for the students. All K-12 students have the opportunity to participate, yet permission forms are required to attend. Information of the event including a link to permission forms can be found [HERE](#) . Permission forms will be sent home with elementary students.

Calendar Highlights

- Jan. 10
 - Art Class Field Trip GR Art Museum Field Trip
 - Mid- High Tutoring HS Credit Recovery/Attendance Make-up
 - Jazz Band
 - Ski Club/ **CANCELED**...ski hill closed
- Jan. 11 Art Club
- Jan. 12
 - Mid- High Tutoring HS Credit Recovery/Attendance Make-up
 - Jazz Band
 - PTO Meeting 3:30
- Jan. 13 Popcorn Sales, Yearbook
- Jan. 17
 - Mid- High Tutoring HS Credit Recovery/Attendance Make-up
 - Jazz Band
- Jan. 18. ½ Day /11:15-20
 - Mid High Exams 1st and 6th hrs.
 - Teacher PD pm
- Jan. 19 ½ Day /11:15-20
 - Mid High Exams 2nd and 5th hrs.
 - Teacher PD pm

- Jan. 20 ½ Day /11:15-20
 - Mid High Exams 3rd and 4th hrs.
 - End of First Semester/2nd qtr
 - Teacher Records Day pm
- Jan. 24
 - Mid- High Tutoring
 - Jazz Band
 - Board Meeting
- Jan. 25
 - Art Club
 - Game Night Permission Slips Due
- Jan. 26
 - Mid- High Tutoring
 - Jazz Band
 - Ski Club
- Jan. 27
 - Game Night /Gym
 - Report Cards Issued
 - Hat Day/ HS Transitions Program
- Jan. 30
- Jan. 31
 - Mid- High Tutoring
 - Jazz Band
- Feb. 1
 - Art Club
 - Blood Drive 1-5pm Gym
 - Feb. 1-9th Valentines Candy Gram Sales Begin
- Feb 2
 - Mid- High Tutoring
 - Jazz Band
- Feb. 3
 - Golden Eagle Assembly

Student Recognitions and Awards

*** BCCS Student Awards and Recognitions for December will be combined with January's nominees and will be presented at the end of the month***

In Closing....

I ask that we not take lightly our school's student performance at Byron Center Charter School. Since my arrival some five years ago, we have consistently demonstrated above average performance in virtually all areas indicated in the State of Michigan's School Accreditation and Accountability reports. These metrics, used to measure school effectiveness, are indicative of a well performing school. While recognizing we have areas of improvement, I want to make a point that we, as members of the BCCS Educational Community, take a moment to celebrate our past successes and challenge ourselves to continue a path of continued success. W/ Care, MK