



BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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BCCS February Newsletter 22-23

Dear Parents/Guardians of BCCS K-12 Students,

Happy February BCCS...Two things schools always like to bring-up in February....student performance and the weather.

With just two weeks into the second half of the year, we are reminded that historically, January thru March is the best time of the school year for growth in student learning. Let's all work together to make this a reality for all BCCS students this year.

The weather has been most interesting this year... It's like the story of three storms....pretty big ones at that. Just a reminder that our school primarily uses WoodTV 8 for media communications regarding school closures and delays. The second and preferred method is to use the REMIND app as a text will be sent directly to your phone of choice by the school (need info?... contact Mrs. Boersma). Finally, in almost all cases if school is closed, all school events are also canceled.

Positive Character Traits in Action

During the month of February, BCCS highlights the character traits of HONESTY and TRUSTWORTHINESS. Although completely different, trustworthiness and honesty seem to fit well together. People often see honesty as the foundation for building trust. Conversely, if you are trustworthy, people generally view you as a reliable and honest person.

As adults with school age children, we are helping to build honesty and trustworthiness among our kids . In the school setting, there have been countless times that I have used the term, '*through the eyes of a (BLANK) year old*' with parents (meaning), that is not quite how it went...and some students can be extremely convincing!

As members of BCCS we are called to look for and recognize acts of honesty and trustworthiness. I hope you share the opinion that helping students grow these traits truly help to build a responsible and healthy member of the community. Let's do our part!

News From the Office

Literacy Grant Update: Additional one-time grant money has been offered to Michigan schools for a variety of purposes. Our school applied for several grants and the awards are now being realized. At this time we share information about a recent grant award we received that focuses on learning loss.

- **Additional Services:** The funding is being used for additional services in literacy development for designated K-5 students. In particular, experts in early literacy have identified two areas heavily impacted by disrupted education caused by the pandemic: Explicit instruction in Phonics and Phonemic Awareness for Early Learners. Therefore, under the direction of Kent ISD Literacy Specialists, we selected a program to help students bridge the gap in loss of learning in these areas. We hired and trained two part time service providers, (Miss Elise Berner and Mrs. Kathy Hoyle), who now meet with identified students 5 days per week during the school day.

- Family Literacy Night: The grant also afforded our school opportunity to provide a Family Literacy Night to K-3 students receiving Title I Reading support services. Invitations were sent home with the students' report cards last week and we hope to see all guests on February 16.

****Please Note: Additional Grant Awards and Related Programs and Services will be Announced in Future Updates for the School****

Thank You GVSU: The Charter School' (CSO) Office of GVSU is providing financial support for multiple student field experiences this year. This month the BCCS 8th grade students will attend a program about "Amending the Constitution" at the GR Ford Museum on February 7. The CSO is financing the entrance and transportation fees and providing lunch for our learners. Look for the announcement of additional student educational programs supported by GVSU in April.

School News

Student and Family Opportunities at BCCS: There are several extra curricular and fun student and family events available to the students and parents this month

- Game Night Rescheduled: this afternoon, February 3rd 3:15 to 4:15 for students who registered for the event.
- Zumba Club: Winter Zumba Club sessions began this week, yet all Mid-High Girls meeting extracurricular eligibility requirements are welcome to participate. Students must submit permission forms one day in advance of the session to participate. The information including dates, times and a link to the permission slips can be found here [LINK](#). Please direct questions to Mrs. Arringdale, Lead Teacher/ Organizer, at sarringdale@byroncentercharter.org .

PTO Nights for K-5 Students and Parents

- Mother-Son Night: The Mother/Son Night for K-5 Students sponsored by the PTO is Friday, February 10 from 6-8:00 pm featuring an obstacle course, games, crafts and snacks. To Register, please complete and submit the form to your child's teacher [LINK](#) .
- Daddy-Daughter Dance: The 2023 PTO sponsored Daddy Daughter Dance, "Dancing in the Winter Wonderland", for K-5 students will be held on Friday, February 17 from 6-8:00 PM. Please complete and submit the registration form to your child's teacher [LINK](#) .

Please Note: Flyers/Forms will be sent home with K-5 Students today, and the events cost \$5 per person that can be paid at the door.

Mid High Band Update

- Solo Ensemble Participants on Saturday Feb 4th at Wyoming HS:
 - Mary Anderson, Jedaiah Armour, Elijah Coffey, Xavier Coffey, Grace Duncan, Ian Emmelkamp, Amelia Schmidt, Ava Syswerda and Jack Syswerda
- Mid High Band Festivals
 - MS Bands: Friday February 24th, Grand Rapids Christian High School
 - HS Bands: Wednesday March 1st, Godwin Heights High School

***** Keeping the Tradition of BCCS Excellence/Good Luck Students and Mrs. Holstegel! *****

BCCS Opportunity for Graduating Seniors: Each year BCCS offers seniors an opportunity to be exempt from taking final exams in their last semester. Seniors can earn an exam exemption if...

- They maintain a class average of 83%/B for Semester 2.
- Have no more than 5 absences total for second semester, with no more than 3 absences during 4th quarter.
- Have no suspensions, or major discipline issues.
 - Does not apply to online or dual enrollment courses.

- Exemptions are determined on a case-by-case basis.
****Highly Recommended, Best Wishes***

School Calendar and Events Highlights

BCCS Clubs:

- Sk Club, ages 7 and Up : Feb 9, 16 and 23
- Winter Zumba Club: Mid High Girls: Feb. 7, 9, 14, 21, and 23
- Art Club Wednesdays, Feb 8, 22
- Jazz Band Tuesdays and Thursdays

Mid-High Extended Day Tutoring Tuesdays and Thursdays

Candy Gram and Carnation Sale through 2/9 delivery Valentines Day/\$1 ea

2/7, 8th Grade Field Trip GR Ford Museum, sponsor by GVSU

2/9 KCTC Visits Designated 10th Grade Students

2/10 K-5 Mother Son Night 6-8 pmFlyers go home today

- Popcorn Day

2/14 Valentine's Day,

- Elementary Card Exchange
- Candy Gram and Carnations Delivery
- KCTC Visits 10th Grade

2/16 Family Literacy Night 6-7 pm: K-3 Students and Parent Invitations Sent Home Last Week

2/17 K-5 Daddy Daughter Dance 6-8 pm...flyers go home today

2/18 6-12 Winter Formal Dance 7-10 pm

2/20 ½ Day of School Winter Break

- 11:15 Exit
- No lunches this day as Byron Public does not have school
- No After School Activities

2/22 Mid High Progress Reports

2/24 Hat Day

Week of Feb 27 Spirit Week

2/28 Skate Night

3/2 Parent Teacher Conferences/Book Fair

- Eagle Assembly

3/3 No School

News from the

Counselor's Chair:

Kent Career Tech Center - 10th Grade

We are currently in the process of having all of the 10th graders visit KCTC. The 3rd week of February applications will be available for any student that wishes to attend KCTC next fall. Please see Mrs. Cravino for an application form or more details.

Nurse's Corner: National Dental Month: February is National Children's Dental Health Month. Oral health concerns are rated as the most chronic disease concerns in school-aged children. It is estimated 51 million school hours are lost due to oral health issues . Developing good habits at an early age and scheduling regular dental visits helps children get a good start on a lifetime of healthy teeth and gums. Need any assistance, please feel free to contact Mrs. Houda, BCCS School Nurse.

BCCS Student Recognitions and Awards

Appreciation: BCCS would like to thank all students, staff, friends and family who participated in the Blood Drive this past Wednesday. Your participation is a life saver, and a display of care and compassion for a serious issue in our community.

Results: 169% to projected goal. WOW!!!

Goal: 16

Donors: 26

Pints Donated: 27

Impact: 81 patients receive life-saving blood!

*** Way to go, folks! ***

December Character Trait - Joyfulness

Elementary

- K - Raelynn Minnie, Yaretzi Rivera
- 1 - Viviana LaFata, Henry Weincek, Henry Veldheer
- 2 - Sam Buck, Aeris Leyrer, Raelynn Blue
- 3 - Chiara Kish, McKenzie Minnie, Ava Leys, Xander Lang
- 4 - Leila Hubbel, Adam Palasek, Chase Smith
- 5 - Abigail Rochealeau, Grace Pike, Logan Elliot, Kaydense Downing

Mid. High

- 6-8 Bella Strogdill, Annika Emmelkamp, McKenna Lang, Braelyn Bowker, Elina Wiersma, Aiden Veldheer, Brycen Block, Kylee Mulder, Max Ayon Jr.
- 9-12 Brianna Hoort, Hannah Schneider, Ben VanDussen, Aaron Nichols, Grace Duncan, Colton Pitsch, Katelyn Keech, Molly DeVries, Kinsley Duncan, Jack Syswerda, Ivan Finch, Joz VanDussen, Evie Timmer, Xavier Coffey

December Student of the Month:

K-2 Lydia Olson

3-5 Mia Kovacevic

6-8 Miriam Apotheker

9-12 Katelyn Keech

January Character Traits - Compassion & Caring

Elementary

- K - Ruby Kuncaitis
- 1 - Eli Hubbel, Lillian Lubbers
- 2 - Nathan Commans, Grant Smith
- 3 - Talia Rinvelt, Jayden Leon, Aubrey Fisch, Judah Buete
- 4 - Erika Harren, Jacob Rocha, Lilly Miller, Allyson HoughMaster, Hailey Gonzalez
- 5 - Aidan Heintz, Noah Fisch, Kaydense Downing

Mid High

- 6-8 Camden Cashman, Bayley Houghmaster, Max Ayon, Anna Higley, Elina Wiersma, Hannah Peterson, William Borsk, Ellie VanDussen
- 9-12 Jack Syswerda, Colton Pitsch, , Matt Nixon, Ava Syswerda, Christa Frank, Kinsley Duncan, Abbi DeWitt, Katelyn Keech, Elijah Verburg, Grace Duncan

January Student of the Month:

K-2 - Piper Martin

3-5 - Luna Gillikin

6-8 - Cody VanDussen

9-12 - Amelia Schmidt

****AWESOME.... GOOD JOB. WELL DONE STUDENTS!****

Ship Shape Awards

- Week 1 Kindergarten
- Week 2 2nd Grade
- Week 3 4th Grade
- Week 4 4th Grade

****Thanks for taking such good care of our school !****

Mid High 2nd Qtr First Semester Honor Roll Recognitions

Middle School All A Honor Roll

Nolan Bolt, Annika Emmelkamp, Lia Franson, Sorren Gillikin, Emma Marais, Cody VanDussen, Elina Wiersma

Middle School A/B Honor Roll

Miriam Apotheker, Lilly Bauer, Alexandra Beverwyk, Symone Brown, Camden Cashman, Hannah Feltzer, Ella Gregorski, Sohpia Hockenberry, Addelyn Hubbel, McKenna Lang, Kylee Mulder, Amelia Pike, Isaella Stogsdill, Ellie VanDussen

High School All A Honor Roll

MaryJane Anderson, Sarah Buchanan, Molly DeVries, Grace Duncan, Ian Emmelkamp, Amelia Schmidt, Ava Syswerda, Joselyn VanDussen

High School A/B Honor Roll

Elyah Coffey, Tori DeVries, Nick Dies, Rhys Houda, Hannah Schnieder, Gabriella Verburg

*****Salute.... You are commended for your accomplishments!*****

In Closing... When given the opportunity, please share a comment of awareness and support to students who received an award, were recognized and/or who have upcoming competitions. One of the most rewarding aspects of our jobs as educators is to recognize students for their accomplishments in the school community. It's been said that "success breeds success", and that one of the most important (if not the most important) factors in motivation theory is success. I suspect having members of the BCC School Community verbally recognize a student, especially other than their own, for receiving one of the school awards, recognitions and/or wishing them well on upcoming competition would have a lasting impact on their, and likely others, motivation to put forth the time and effort to do well. Perhaps it's a lot to ask, but we have a lot of opportunities to make this happen at BCCS. Your consideration is appreciated. And.... Good Job, Well Done Students and Staff! MK