



# BYRON CENTER CHARTER SCHOOL

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3/1/24

Dear Parents/Guardians of BCCS K-12 Students,

March is such an exciting time at BCCS School. Not only is it National Reading Month, but our *small but mighty school* has Parent Teacher Conferences, an upcoming Spirit Week that culminates with the annual BCCS Festival of the Arts. The festival features the visual and performing arts of students and staff the day before we recess for spring break. We encourage all students to consider participation as this is most certainly a highlight in the BCCS school calendar.

## School Character Traits

The three pillars of our school mission put emphasis on 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*. Just so you know, visitors/guests of BCCS often comment on the courtesy and respect demonstrated by the students and staff. Courtesy is generally viewed as a person's behavior toward others that is considered to be polite and caring. Respect is generally viewed as a person's beliefs and actions that show high regard or esteem for others/self and/or admiration of a people's qualities/abilities. Most of us agree that courteous and respectful people are appreciated and desired members of our community and society at large. On the other hand, when people are viewed as disrespectful and discourteous, well..... let's just say they miss-out on many opportunities and invitations. Knowing this is one of our school's positive character traits, as adult 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 2023-24 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 '23-24 school year, the enrollment paperwork must be submitted by April 15. Additionally our school provides its members a unique opportunity to receive a financial gift for bringing new members into our educational community.

- [2024-25 Open Enrollment Announcement](#)
- [Enrollment Initiative Program](#)
- [Enrollment Administrative Guidelines](#)

## School News

March is Reading Month: March is National Reading Month and a time for all to celebrate reading. Wild About Reading .... that features competitions, events and activities to promote and celebrate reading. BCCS held the kick-off this week and each student will receive a packet of information to take home. The schoolwide challenge is logging 40,000 minutes of reading this month! Have fun and good luck!

### Related Information

- Parent Note: [HERE](#)
- Elementary: [K-5 Reading Month Calendar](#)
- Mid/High: [6-12 Reading Calendar](#)
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Parent/Teacher Conferences: In person conferences are to be held Thursday, March 14th from 12:30-8:00. Information for registration will be sent home next week. All parent/guardians are asked to attend

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

Band Festivals: The BCCS MS, HS and Jazz Band festivals will take place this month. We want to keep the tradition of excellence in music alive and well at BCCS and wish Mrs. Holstege and the BCCS Bands luck in the upcoming festivals. Also, we extend our THANKS to the parent drivers!

- MS and HS Band Festival: March 7th at Union HS
- Jazz Band Festival: March 14 at Caledonia HS

Yearbook Art Contest: The yearbook class has started an art contest for the title pages for each section in the yearbook. There will be one winner per section:

- K-5 for the front title page [Yearbook Cover Page K-5 Contest](#)
- 6-8 for the Middle School title page [MS 6-8 Cover Page Contest](#)
- 9-12 for the High School title page [HS 9-12 Cover Page Contest](#)

Flyers are also sent home with students. Entries are due by *March 22*. We are planning to announce winners at the Festival of the Arts on March 28.

Questions: Contact Mrs. Humes [mhumes@byroncentercharter.org](mailto:mhumes@byroncentercharter.org)

MS Spring Cross Country: We are just a few short weeks from kicking-off our Spring Cross Country season! *Spring is a Middle School only season*, so we welcome all returning and interested 6th-8th boys and girls to join us this Spring! Please fill out the permission slip to sign your child up, or shoot an email to [sarringdale@bryoncentercharter.org](mailto:sarringdale@bryoncentercharter.org) answering the questions on the form. Please do so before **March 18th** (a week before our first practice).

- [MS 6-8 CC Info and Reg Form](#)

### Calendar Highlights

- March Ongoing Activities

- Reading Month - Coordinator Mrs. Berner
- Middle School Cross Country Coordinator/Coach Mrs. Arringdale
- \* Thursday March 14, Parent Teacher Conferences
  - ½ Day of School 11:15-20 Student Release
  - Grab-n-Go Lunches by Order
  - No After School Activities
  - PTO Book Fair 11:30-7:30
- Friday, March 15: **No School**
- Spirit Week by Student Council Week of March 25
  - Stay Tuned
  - BCCS Skate Night Flyer [HERE](#)
- Festival Of the Arts March 28th: A Schoolwide Celebration of the Visual and Performing Arts
  - Registration forms coming soon
- Tuesdays & Thursdays
  - Mid-High Extended Day Tutoring
  - Jazz Band
  -

#### BCCS March Events and Activities

- Monday, March 4: Muffin Monday
- Wednesday, March 6, Guest Speaker 1st Grade KDL
- Thursday, March 7
  - HS Middle School Band Festival at Union HS ...*Thank you Drivers!!!*
  - 3-5 Flag Football Club 3:15-4:15
  - PTO Meeting in Art Room 3:30-4:30
- Friday, March 8:
  - Popcorn Friday .50 cents ...*fundis support yearbook costs*
  - Mid-High After School Sports/ Soccer 3:30-4:15
- \*\*\*\*\*Sunday, March 10: Spring Forward..... Daylight Savings Time Begins\*\*\*\*\*
- Thursday, March 14
  - BCCS Jazz Band /Jazz Festival at Caledonia HS
  - Parent Teacher Conferences
  - ½ day of school
  - PTO Spring Book Fair
- Friday, March 15 No School
- Monday March 18, MS Cross Country Permission Slips Due
- Wednesday, March 20: Michigan Department of Education Onsite Visit
- Thursday, March 21: 3-5 Flag Football 3:15-4:15
- Friday, March 22:
  - End of 3rd Quarter
  - Hat Day for a \$1
  - Mid High Sports Club: Flag Football 3:15-4:15
- Monday-Thursday, March 25-28, SPIRIT WEEK
- Monday, March 25 3rd Quarter Grades Posted
- Tuesday, March 26, Skate Night 3:15-5:00
- Wednesday, March 27: Report Cards Go Home

- Thursday, March 28: BCCS Annual Festival of the Arts ....*participation Information forthcoming*
- Friday, March 29 : **No School**, Start of Spring Break

FYI

- Monday - Friday April 1-5 Spring Break
- Monday, April 8, School Resumes

## **Student Recognitions and Awards**

### **February Character Recognitions for Honesty and Trustworthiness**

#### Elementary

- K - Abigail Buck, Riley Milburn
- 1 - Nehemiah Torres, Nellie Farwell, Adam Gonzalez
- 2 - Caden Harran, Ava Padilla, Eli Hubbel, Jensen Braun
- 3 - Katie Gonzalez, Raelynn Blue, Gideon Torres, Torrance Heintz, Jael Torrez
- 4 - Koda Rodriguez, Liam Stratton, Jayden Leon, Melanie Donegan
- 5 - Leila Hubbel, Ally Houghmaster

#### Mid. High

- 6-8 , Noah Fisch, Emma Marais, Bayley Houghmaster, Isabella Stogsdill, Zavian VanNoy, Lilly Bauer, Aiden Heinz, Hanna Peterson, Symone Brown
- 9-12 Matthew Conover, Gloria Gomez, Gracie Duncan, Jack Syswerda, Ben VanDussen, Ellie VanDussen, Ian Emmelkamp, Amelia Schmidt, Rose Minnie, Breanna Uhl, Ava Syswerda, Tyler Ganka, Braedon Duncan

### **February Student of the Month**

K-2 Cohen Aniol

3-5 Iva Covert

6-8 Nolan Bolt

9-12 Lia Franson

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

### **Ship Shape Awards**

Week of....

- 2/5 3rd Grade
- 2/11 3rd Grade
- 2/19 Kindergarten
- 2/25 4th Grade

*Thanks for showing your care for our school!*

## **Counselors Chair**

### KCTC Enrollment Forms - 3.6.24

Any sophomore or juniors wishing to apply for the Tech Center for next fall needs to have their completed applications to Mrs Cravino by March 6, 2024.

### National Christian College Fair - 3.12.24

All high school students, grades 9 - 12, are invited to the National Christian College Fair at Grand Rapids Christian High School on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM hosted at Grand Rapids Christian High School, Quest Center, 2300 Plymouth Ave SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49506. [Click here](#) to register for this event. For more information watch this [video](#) or visit their [website](#).

### West Michigan National College Fair - 4.23.24

All high school students, grades 9 - 12, are invited to the West Michigan National College Fair at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. For more information, click this [link](#).

### Buist Job Shadow Event - 3.14.24

Buist Electric is hosting a [Job Shadow Event](#) on Thursday, March 14 from 8:30 – 11:30 AM at our Byron Center office (2-84th St. Byron Center, MI 49315). This is a great opportunity for high school students to gain firsthand insight into a career in the Electrical Industry. Contact JoAnne Buist at [jbuist@buistelectric.com](mailto:jbuist@buistelectric.com) to get signed up or see Mrs Cravino

### Virtual Financial Aid Webinars for Seniors

Students and their families interested in learning about financial aid basics are encouraged to [register for a virtual presentation](#) provided by the MI Student Aid team. There are multiple dates and times to choose from and all sessions are free of charge and open to the public. Register for one session only, as space is limited.

Questions ??? please contact Mrs. Cravino [hcravino@byroncentercharter.org](mailto:hcravino@byroncentercharter.org)

## **Nurses Corner**

March is National Nutrition Month! This is the 51st Year of Celebrating and inviting individuals to make informed, healthy food choices and adopt healthy physical activity habits. This year's theme is "Beyond the Table". There are some excellent resources in the link below, as well as weekly goals/suggestions to focus on for individuals of all ages.

See: <https://www.eatright.org/national-nutrition-month-2024>

If you are a parent or guardian of teenagers, or teach them in the classroom, please check out *For Parents, Caregivers, and Teachers*, located in the Teens section where you will find free educational materials about making healthy food and lifestyle choices. [Teens section](#)

Happy Nutrition Month, Mrs. Houda

## **In Closing....**

*Please be aware that, as with all MI public schools, our school is preparing to administer the annual state assessments. With the exception of WIDA (state assessment for English Learners) the administration of state assessments begins in April and runs through mid-May. Initial awareness and preparation activities for students will begin in the next few weeks, yet the most valuable actions for the awareness and preparation in the home include:*

- Be aware of test dates and what tests will be administered for your children
- Engage your children in conversation about the tests
  - Encourage your children to give a good faith effort
  - Remind children these tests represent their individual skills and knowledge
  - Recognize test are long and may be difficult
  - Encourage perseverance
  - Encourage your children to avoid rapid guessing
- Assure your children get proper rest and a nutritious breakfast

*As previously noted, our small, but mighty school received a school performance financial award from the GVSU Charter School's Office and last year we were recognized by the State of Michigan as a REWARD School as a result of our performance on state assessments the previous year . Lets keep it going folks...this is a team effort!!*

*State assessment data are used as the primary indicator for the State of Michigan School Accountability and Performance Ratings. All MI state test information can be found on the MDE Assessment website [HERE](#). Please note: several guides have yet to be updated to the 2-23-34 school year, though information will be sent home as updates are communicated.*

*As always, your consideration and active participation is appreciated.*

*Have a wonderful weekend folks....*

*W/ Care, MK*