Bermudian Springs School District News

Donations Help Further Efforts

The One To World (OTW) initiative has taken several years to plan and organize and its goal is to provide our students with a world class education that prepares them to be productive citizens beyond Bermudian Springs.

As a District we have been focusing on the skill set of our teachers connected to OTW for more than a year. We are excited about their willingness to learn and teach differently based on the needs of our students. Additionally, in January of 2017 we issued iPads to all students in 9th grade (now 10th graders), and in August of 2017 we issued iPads to each student in Grade 8, 9, and 11 in an effort to equip our teachers and students with the tools they need to collaborate, communicate, research, and demonstrate their learning.

One of the issues we did not anticipate with this initiative was the impending mechanical failure of many of our classroom projectors. The projectors are connected to the teacher’s computer and has the potential to connect to any student device. This allows for engaging presentations and for the ability of teachers and student to interact in a meaningful way.

We have spent some time as a District determining what we feel is the most cost effective method of replacing the projectors, yet maintain the ability to interact and share. Through those efforts we have determined that it is more cost effective for us to replace the projectors with an HD television that is connected with an Apple TV. We have multiple classrooms across the District set up in this manner and the feedback has been outstanding. We've budgeted to replace 15 classroom projectors with this approach, but the projectors are failing more quickly than we anticipated and we have already exceed our budget for the 17-18 school year to replace them.

We reached out to several local social organizations seeking financial assistance to further this cause. The McSherrystown Homeowners Association as well as the New Oxford Social Club made very generous donations that will enable us to replace projectors in 25 more classrooms! We are very grateful for their donation, support of our initiative, and the opportunities they've now enabled for our students and staff!

– Dr. Shane Hotchkiss, Superintendent

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OCTOBER 6 & 9, 2017 TEACHER INSERVICE

The October 6th in-service agenda included a opening session by guest speaker, Mr. A.J. Juliani, author of: Empower: What Happens When Students Own Their Learning, which was followed by small group work sessions utilizing assessments and unit plans. We also completed building collaboration and reflection on discussion questions following a close read of the article: “The Main Course, Not Dessert” Larmer, J. & Mergendoller, J. (2010), Bucks Institute for Education.

On October 9th teachers had team meetings in their buildings, reviewed data using protocols based on the information being discussed, and identified strengths and concerns. Following this review, teams were asked to begin steps for action planning.

In the afternoon all members of our learning community were afforded the time to begin to implement their professional learning plan. Learning goals were posted and we summarized two days of in-service learning through a Flipgrid activity.
Welcome our New Teachers and Administrators for the 2017-2018 School Year

Mrs. Barrick            Mrs. Beck              Mr. Cook                  Mr. D’Annibale          Dr. Fox
Kindergarten            1st Grade                 Sup. Of Custodians    MS Asst. Principal        Asst. Superintendent    Dir
of Special
Education

Mrs. Gillet
Dir. of Special
Education

Opening In-Service Day for Teachers and Staff

Our teachers and staff began the 2017-2018 school year on August 17, 2017 with an opening session that welcomed all new staff and included remarks by Mr. Jim Lott, School Board President, Dr. Shane Hotchkiss, Superintendent, and Dr. Jon Fox, Asst. Superintendent.

All of our newest support staff and teachers were introduced at the opening session and included the following:

Robin Barr, MS Cafeteria
Cheyanne Beck, 1st Gr Teacher
Ashlie Cantele, ES Personal Care Aide
David Cook, Supervisor of Custodians
Christian D’Annibale, MS Asst. Principal
Jon Fox, Asst. Superintendent
Kayla Fritz, HS Cafeteria
Ashleigh Groff, HS Spanish
Disirae Gulden, ES Library Aide
Ashley Harder, MS Personal Care Aide

Melissa Joyce, ES Custodian
Ryan Leahy, HS Mathematics Teacher
Amanda Moore, ES Cafeteria
Sheila Myers, HS Custodian
Lauren Shaffer, HS Business Education
Jacob Slagel, HS Business Education
Erika Smith, ES Learning Support Teacher
Stephanie Smith, MS Personal Care Aide
Betsy Ueblacker, HS Cafeteria
Marcia Wolf, Kindergarten Aide

Opening In-Service Focus—EMPOWER

Teachers attended sessions on August 17-18, 2017 that included: Peer Coaching, Multi-media Use in the Classroom, Coding in the Classroom, and Sparking Creativity in the Classroom.
Annual Public Notice to Parents

All Public Schools provide no-cost evaluations and appropriate programs to all students eligible for special education, gifted, and Chapter 15/Section 504 services. Services are made available to children that meet the eligibility requirements for special education, gifted, and/or Chapter 15/Section 504 services. It is the responsibility of the school districts and charter schools to ensure that all children residing in the Commonwealth, who are in need of Special Education and related services, are identified, located, and evaluated. A federal law called the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004) as amended in 2004 requires this annual child find notice.

**EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES**

Lincoln Preschool Immediate Unit #12 provides services for children who are developmentally delayed between the ages of three years and school age. Programs are available in a number of settings throughout the three county area. These services are available at no cost to parents. Available services include classroom instructional services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech and language therapy. If you have a child whom you think is eligible for services, please contact LIU #12 Preschool Office at (717) 624-6475. Screening for pre-school children is available each month at The York Learning Center (York 717/718-5920), the LIU Central Office (New Oxford 717-624-6490), and the Franklin Learning Center (Chambersburg 717-263-1732). To schedule an appointment for a screening and/or evaluation call one of the numbers listed above. Developmental delay is defined as a child who is less than the age of beginners and at least 3 years of age is considered to have a developmental delay when one of the following exists: (i) The child’s score, on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child’s chronological age in one or more developmental areas. (ii) The child is delayed in one or more of the developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean on standardized tests. Developmental areas include cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help.

**SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

**Evaluation:** If a parent suspects their child may have a disability and be in need of special education services, an evaluation process is available at no cost through the school district or charter school in which the parent lives. This request for an evaluation should be made in writing to the contact person identified at the end of this notice. If a parent makes an oral request for an evaluation, the school district or charter school shall provide the parent with a form for that purpose. Pre-Referral Team, Child Study Team, or Instruction Support Team (IST) activities may not serve as a barrier to the right of a parent to request an evaluation. The evaluation process results in a written evaluation report. This report specifies a student’s eligibility for special education based on the presence of a disability and the need for specially designed instruction. Every public school including charter schools have a procedure in place by which parents can request a special education evaluation. For information about the school district’s procedures applicable to your child, contact the school which your child attends. The telephone numbers and address for the school district may be found at the end of this notice. **Consents:** School entities cannot proceed with an evaluation or with the initial provision of special education and related services, without the informed written consent of the parent.

**Individualized Education Program (IEP)**

If, after an evaluation, your child is found to have a disability and to need special education, the public school will develop, with parent participation, an IEP. An IEP is a written document that specifically describes the services your child needs. The child’s parent, the regular education teacher, the special education teacher, and representative of the school’s special education program will be present at the IEP team meeting. If the IEP meeting follows the first evaluation of your child, the school may not proceed with delivery of special education services until the parent provides consent in a NOREP.

**Notice of Recommended Educational Placement/Prior Written Notice (NOREP/PWN):** The LEA must notify you in writing whenever it proposes or refuses to initiate or to change the identification, evaluation, educational program or placement of a child or whenever it refuses to initiate or make a change in the identification, evaluation, educational program or placement requested by a parent.

**NOTICE FOR SERVICES UNDER CHAPTER 15 AND SECTION 504:** Students who are not eligible to receive special education services may qualify as protected handicapped students and therefore be protected by other federal and state laws intended to prevent discrimination. The school district or charter school must ensure that protected handicapped students have equal opportunity to participate in the school program and extracurricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate for each individual student. Section 504 covers qualified students with disabilities who attend schools receiving federal financial assistance. To be protected under Chapter 15/Section 504, a student must be determined to: 1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; 2) have a record of such impairment, or 3) be regarded as having such impairment. Chapter 15/Section 504 requires that school districts or charter schools provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) to qualified students in their jurisdictions who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities. For further information on the evaluation procedures and provision of services to protected handicapped students under Chapter 15/Section 504, parents should contact the school district of residence or charter school.

**NOTICE OF SERVICES FOR GIFTED STUDENTS**

While gifted is not included as one of the disabilities categories under the IDEA 2004, the Pennsylvania State Board of Education’s regulations as set forth in Chapter 16, Special Education for Gifted Students, provide that gifted students are considered to be children with exceptionalities and are in need of specially designed instruction. Under Chapter 16, each school district shall conduct public awareness activities to inform the public of gifted education services and programs and the manner by which to request those services and programs. These awareness activities shall be designed to reach parents of students enrolled in the public schools and parent of children not enrolled in public schools.

**Screening:** Chapter 16 requires that each school district shall adopt and use a system to locate and identify all students that are residents of the school district who are thought to be gifted and in need of specially designed instruction. Each school district shall determine the student’s needs through a screening and evaluation process that meets the requirements of Chapter 16.

**Gifted Multidisciplinary Evaluation**

For students who are potentially gifted students, the district will take the following steps:

1. Complete the Gifted Screening Procedures
2. Conduct the Gifted Multidisciplinary Evaluation
3. Compile a Gifted Written Report
4. Convene a Gifted Individualized Education program team meeting to determine whether the student is gifted, and;
5. Develop a Gifted Individualized Education program if the student is a gifted student.

For students who are gifted and eligible for Special Education, it is not necessary for school districts to conduct separate screenings and evaluations, develop separate IEPs, or use separate procedural safeguards processes to provide for a student’s needs as both a gifted and eligible for special education.

**CONFIDENTIALITY OF STUDENT INFORMATION**

All school entities maintain educational records concerning children enrolled in public school, including students with disabilities. Educational records containing personally identifiable information about or related to children with disabilities are securely maintained, and not released without parent consent.

**Consent for Disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information:**

Parent consent must be obtained before personally identifiable information is released, except as permitted under Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). The age of majority in Pennsylvania is 21. Each participating agency must protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at collection, storage, disclosure, and destruction stages. One official at each participating agency must assume responsibility for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information. Complaints concerning alleged failure of a public school to comply with the confidentiality requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act may be addressed to the United States Department of Education as follows:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20202-5920
Phone 1-800-872-5327

The public schools, immediate unit, and charter schools prohibit discrimination in employment, educational programs, and activities on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, marital status, or because a person is a disabled veteran. No preschool, elementary or secondary school pupil enrolled in a school district, intermediate unit, or charter school shall be denied equal opportunity or equal access to participate in age and program appropriate instruction or activities due to race, color, handicap, creed, national origin, marital status, or financial hardship.

For more information contact:

Mrs. Kay C. Gillet
Director of Special Education
Bermudian Springs School District

**SERVICIOS DE LA EDUCACION ESPECIAL**

Si necesita información sobre la educación especial en español, por favor póngase en contacto con Kay Gillet, Director de Educación Especial en el Bermudian Springs School District (717) 528-4113 o (717) 624-4231
The annual Pennsylvania System School Assessment (PSSA) is a standards-based, criterion-referenced assessment which provides students, parents, educators and citizens with an understanding of student and school performance related to the attainment of proficiency of the academic standards. These standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science and Technology identify what a student should know and be able to do at varying grade levels. School districts possess the freedom to design curriculum and instruction to ensure that students meet or exceed the standards’ expectations.

Every Pennsylvania student in grades 3 through 8 is assessed in English Language Arts and Math. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 4 and 8 is assessed in science.

Individual student scores, provided only to their respective schools, can be used to assist teachers in identifying students who may be in need of additional educational opportunities, and school scores provide information to schools and districts for curriculum and instruction improvement discussions and planning.

Keystone Exams are end-of-course assessments in designated content areas which serve two purposes: (1) high school accountability assessments for federal and state purposes, and (2) high school graduation requirements for students. Algebra I and Literature exams include items written to the Assessment Anchors/Eligible Content aligned to the Pennsylvania Core Standards in Mathematics, and English Language Arts. Biology Exams are written to the Assessment Anchor/Eligible Content aligned to the enhanced Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Science. Source: www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Assessment

Questions about the PSSA and Keystone Exams can be addressed to:

Dr. Jon Fox, Assistant Superintendent
Bermudian Springs High School
Mr. DeFoe, Principal
Mr. Fleming, Asst. Principal

Notes from the Principal
Mr. Jon DeFoe:
As the first marking period comes to a close, please take a moment to check your child’s report card on the Sapphire Community Portal. Hopefully, tracking your child’s grades is something you and your child do on a regular basis. At this point, if you haven’t created a Sapphire Community Portal account, we encourage you to do so. The portal is an outstanding tool for various forms of communication. With that being said, the report card only tells part of the story of how your child is progressing. For this reason we strongly recommend parents/guardians come in and meet with their child’s teachers during one of our parent/teacher conference opportunities. Staying on top of your child’s progress is just as important at the high school as it was in the middle or elementary school. The stakes of graduation and possibly going off to college, tech/trade school, military, or the work force make high school grades vitally important. Please take the time to make a face to face connection with your child’s teachers. I would like to personally invite all of our high school families to attend one of our parent/teacher conference opportunities on Thursday, November 2nd from 1:00-3:05 PM or 5:30-9:00 PM or Friday, November 3rd from 1:00-3:05 PM. Conferences can be scheduled in advance with individual teachers at www.myconferencetime.com.

Keystone Exams
Approximately 150 students comprised of sophomores and juniors will be taking the Keystone Exams January 8-22, 2018.

Students who previously scored basic or below basic on either Algebra, Biology, or Literature must re-take the exam. If students score proficient or advanced on all three content areas they may have the choice in their senior year of scheduling release time. This option allows them to come to school by the end of 1st period or leave at the conclusion of 10th period if they have study hall during that time.

All students entering their senior year must be proficient or advanced on each exam. If they are not, they will be assigned to PLATO to earn their proficient status.

Mid-Term Exams will take place on Tuesday, December 19th through Friday, December 22nd. Each day will have two double periods for exams.

Attention parents! If your child would benefit from some extra help, one to one instruction, test preparation, or assignment/project editing we encourage you to have them stay after school for tutoring. We have two teachers from various subject areas available every Tuesday and Thursday from 3-4 PM. Tutoring is held in the high school library and is open to all students.

In the spring we will again be offering our Biology Boot Camp. This will be an after school program to assist students in preparing for the May Biology Keystone Exam.

Together we can help all students reach their maximum potential. “Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try.”

The School Board of Directors meets monthly in the District Administration office at 7:00 PM.

2017 - 2018 Meeting Dates:
November 14, 2017          March 13, 2018
December 4, 2017           April 10, 2018
January 9, 2018            May 8, 2018
February 13, 2018          June 12, 2018

School Board Policies can be found on our website under the “School Board” tab on our website.
- Section 000 - Local Board Procedures
- Section 100 - Programs
- Section 200 - Pupils
- Section 300 - Administrative Employees
- Section 400 - Professional Employees
- Section 500 - Support Employees
- Section 600 - Finances
- Section 700 - Property
- Section 800 - Operations
- Section 900 - Community
Bermudian Springs School District News

Bermudian Springs Middle School

#BSMSProud

September Reward

At the end of September, our Assistant Principal, Mr. D’Annibale took all of the recognized students, along with one friend, outside for lunch at the pavilion. The students were given ice cream sandwiches, had music playing, were given time to play, and had a lot of fun with their teachers and peers. One student shared, “I’m not a straight A student so I don’t get rewarded all the time. It feels really nice to be recognized for good behavior.” Another student shared that “Last year I was in a good amount of trouble and I spent the summer maturing and growing up. It is great to be rewarded for growing up the way that I did.”

Teacher Shout-Outs

Not only have our students improved their behavior as a result of this positive learning environment, but we’ve also had over 100 students voluntarily fill out “Teacher Shout-Out” cards which allow our students to thank their teachers for putting in the hard work in order to help them grow as a student. These shout-out cards really make our teachers smile and brighten their days. Most importantly, giving the shout-out cards make our students smile as well! One student shared, “I can’t pick a favorite teacher because I love them all. They deserve to be thanked for what they do for us.”

The atmosphere that has been created with these positive sentiments has been incredible to start the year and we owe that to our amazing students and our incredible teachers. Our students continue to make positive choices and our teachers continue their ongoing excellence which all leads to a school that is an amazing place to be. We are all absolutely and 100% #BSMSProud.

Like us on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/BermudianSpringsMiddleSchool

TWEET: BSMS @BSMS_Eagles 7:17 AM - 12 Sep 2017 “Students thanking Teachers for all they do. “He makes me actually like math” is my favorite but I love ALL of the teacher shout-outs.”
This summer a group of teachers worked together to create a school wide positive behavior support program throughout the building. A matrix was created to establish consistent school wide expectations and language for all. Students were taught the matrix and are caught following our SOAR expectations with SOAR tickets. Tickets are collected in buckets within the classroom and weekly drawings are used to select SOAR winners for a variety of prizes. Students have selected extra recess, shadowed adults, being first on the bus, and more.

In addition, our bus drivers have embraced our SOAR program and have found ways to recognize positive behaviors on the bus. We are excited to have built the base of this program and plan to expand it throughout the year. One of our next steps will be to develop classroom lessons to teach the expected behaviors to the students throughout the school year. Classroom teachers are collecting data and submitting it throughout the year to be analyzed by the positive behavior instructional support (PBIS) team. This data will be utilized to create plans to address areas throughout the building in which behaviors are re-occurring. The concept is to teach and re-teach the expectations in order to support the social, emotional development of our students.

**TWEETS:**
BSES @BSES_Eagles 11:45 a.m., Oct. 11, 2017
Soar reward! #BSESsoar

BSES Retweeted—Sept 28, 2017 Mrs. Mleczko's Class @MrsMleczko
We started @DreamBox_Learn today and students were loving the new games and lessons!

BSES Retweeted—Sep 22, 2017 Claudia Helman @HelmanClaudia
Playing rolling doubles...a new math game!
The Bermudian Springs One to World Initiative is designed to provide our teachers and students with increased access to technology resources in support of their learning in school and at home. The One to World Initiative:

♦ Provides unlimited opportunities for real-world learning.
♦ Fosters creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking.
♦ Facilitates personalized learning through ownership, choice, and reflection.
♦ Allows for immediate and strategic feedback.

Bermudian Springs School District recognizes that today’s students will be tomorrow’s leaders, skilled workers, parents, and active citizens. We strive to provide our students with educational opportunities that will inspire these students to lead, learn, compete, and serve.

We believe that providing teachers and students with increased access to technology in support of learning will help us:

* Prepare students with skills they need to succeed in college or a career
* Transform Classrooms so that ALL teachers have a classroom resource that supports individualized instruction and engages students in learning.
* Empower All Learners & Educators by giving ALL students equal access to information and resources in support of their education.

Teachers will have the opportunity to provide individualized, personalized learning opportunities to our students through the use of technology. Students will have a device and access to resources in support of their learning.

Finally, providing the same device to each student in the One to World Initiative means that ALL students will have equal access to technology in support of education. This is an important point in a district such as ours, where nearly 40% of our students’ families qualify for free and reduced breakfast and lunch; equal access to technology levels the educational playing field for ALL learners.

More detailed information about One To World can be found on our District website on the home page, under “Our District” and then select “One To World” or by going to this link: https://sites.google.com/bermudian.org/otw/home

Sapphire Parent Portal - Notification System

Parents or guardians wishing to set up access to Sapphire can log in to: www.bermudian.org, select the Parents tab, and click on the Sapphire Community Web Portal. Follow the instructions found on the website. By accessing Sapphire, parents/guardians will have the most up-to-date information on students grades, attendance and contact information.

Our goal is to provide all parents or guardians access to Sapphire within 3 business days upon completion of their respective application.

The Sapphire system will also be utilized for emergency closing, delay notifications, cancellation notifications as well as school building level announcements, so it is important that up-to-date contact information is maintained in the Sapphire system. We encourage all parents and guardians to utilize the system to keep their contact information current.

EVENING ADULT EDUCATION SESSIONS

Session descriptions, registration deadlines and fees can be found on our website: www.bermudian.org.
Click on the “Community Tab” for a registration form.

Sessions include:
Basic Spanish, Zumba, Zumba Gold, Zumba Toning, Walking inside the Elementary School, Aerobics with HIIT, Co-Ed Volleyball

Additional sessions will be added. Check the website for details or call 717-528-4113 Ext 1700 with questions