From the Principal - November 2017

Dear Parent(s), Guardian(s), and the Booth Hill Elementary School Community,

I am sure many of you are enjoying our extended summer like weather. I know I am! November seems to be the month that things start to cool off dramatically. In the meantime, we will continue our outdoor recess and activities as it permits.

At a prior PTO meeting, I discussed principles of teacher instruction in language arts and math. I wanted to take a few paragraphs this month to reiterate this message regarding math.

Mathematics – To begin, no, math has not changed. However, how we manipulate, think about, represent, and ultimately persuade and argue with numbers has become more rigorous. No longer do we only value and accept accurate answers. We strive to have students represent their argument and thinking through constructs, contexts, diagrams, and models. Can students articulate patterns, rules, and use numbers and mathematical thinking to persuade, argue, and apply?

These types of practices take a different kind of instruction. I remember some of my schooling where I sat and memorized formulae and facts. Yes, I still remember some of these different facts. What I don’t always remember is why or how to use them. Teachers are asking students to complete problems with skills requiring application, analysis, invention, and evaluation. They are requiring more “rigor” beyond fact fluency. This ultimately relies on developing students’ perseverance, or as it has come to be known— “grit.” We want students to be able to dissect a problem, determine what it is asking, investigate it, use appropriate and domain-specific language, and not only solve it, but be able to present their findings, solutions, and rationale. In the end – we want students to think like mathematicians and problem-solvers.

Each classroom teacher is well versed and able to answer questions about the content and skills being taught in each grade. I hope you will use their knowledge and expertise if you happen to run into challenges or your curiosity is sparked. We are always here to help. Moreover, we believe these practices will develop rational and logical thinking in our students that will carry across disciplines and years of instruction.

Upcoming Information

Picture Re-take/Missing – Robert Taylor will be completing picture retakes and missing photos on November 13.

Veteran’s Day – We will observe Veteran’s Day on November 10, 2017 at school. Classroom teachers have sent out a request to honor those veteran’s in your family at our assembly with students. Please return it to the school as soon as possible.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Teacher’s sent out a link for you to register for a conference with them. Registration for November 2 can be accessed through the provided link. Please follow the steps – you will be prompted for information such as you and your child’s name. Special area teachers sent out the link on the same date (10-6-17) in a combined email. The same process to sign up for a conference will be used.

Half Days – November 3, 21, and 22 are planned early dismissal days. Please make arrangements for changes in pick-up prior to those dates if necessary.
End of Trimester 1 – December 1, 2017

Change in pick-up: Please make every effort to inform us of changes in pick-up as early as possible. We prefer that you send a note in with your child to be sent to the office through the classroom teacher in the morning. It is difficult to change our dismissal lists to specific staff in the late afternoon once they have been distributed.

Attendance - Please remember the following for tracking attendance:
   a.) All late arrivals and early dismissals without formal documentation are considered unexcused.
   b.) An absence becomes excused when the school receives formal documentation within ten days of the absence.
   c.) A student is considered truant if he/she accumulates 4 unexcused absences in a month or 10 unexcused absences in a year.

Please see attached calendar for a comprehensive list of upcoming events.

Lastly, for the most up-to-date information and postings, please follow me on Twitter @BoothHillSchool

Take care of yourself, take care of each other, and take care of your school!

Sincerely,

James Zavorlancik
Principal
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 Daylight Saving Time Ends</td>
<td>6 After School Program 3:50-4:50 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>7 No School Teacher Prof. Day</td>
<td>8 After School Program 3:50-4:50 PTO Apparel Sale Starts Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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<td>1 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>2 Teachers Conference K-4 6-8</td>
<td>3 Early Dismissal</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14 CCD 3:45-5:00 PTO Meeting @7:00 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>15 Scarpa Musical After School Program 3:50-4:50 BOE Mtg. @7:00</td>
<td>16 Boys basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>17 Daisy Troop Gr. 1 3:45-5:15 Gr. 4 Troop 3:45-5:15 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30 PTO Apparel Sale Ends</td>
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<td>Picture Retake 9-10:30 After School Program 3:50-4:50 Gr. 3 Brownies 3:45-5:10 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>21 Early Dismissal Prof. Dev. (K-4)</td>
<td>22 Early Dismissal</td>
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<td>Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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<td>26</td>
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<td>28 CCD 3:45-5:00 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>29 After School Program 3:50-4:50 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
<td>30 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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<td>Dec. 1st end of Trimester 1</td>
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<td>After School Program 3:50-4:50 Gr. 3 Brownies #32 3:45-5:10 Boys Basketball 5:30-8:30</td>
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The Board of Education complies with all applicable federal, state and local laws prohibiting the exclusion of any person from any of its educational programs or activities because of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability, genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or general nondiscrimination laws.
From the PTO
Booth Hill School's annual Halloween Bash is approaching October 27th. We would like to keep all dressed up trick-or-treaters safe so we ask that masks & play weapons be left at home.

Thank You
Charleston Wrap Fundraiser
orders will be available for pick up on
Thursday November 2\textsuperscript{nd} in the
BHS cafeteria.

Please make arrangements to pick up
your orders on Thursday November 2\textsuperscript{nd}
from 3:45 – 6:30.

If you have any questions, please email
us at bhsptomail@gmail.com

Thank you!
Booth Hill School Dining Day at Stone’s Throw Restaurant

Wednesday, November 8th
11:30 am - 9:00 pm

Stone’s Throw serves American Cuisine, made from scratch, with an emphasis on local seafood and local farms. Year-round, waterfront dining in Seymour, CT.

Bring this Flyer into Stone’s Throw on November 8th and a percentage of your bill will be donated to the Booth Hill School PTO.

Stone’s Throw is owned by the Recker family of Booth Hill School

Checkout our menu online at www.stonesthrowct.com
BOOTH HILL SCHOOL PTO

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS: Fall 2017

MONDAYS and/or WEDNESDAYS 3:50 - 4:50 PM

6 WEEKS: 11/6/2017 - 12/20/2017

*no classes the week of 11/20/17*

MONDAYS:

ZUMBA KIDS $80: Grades K-4
Perfect for kids who love to dance, this Zumba Kids class features kid-friendly routines that will help your child develop a healthy lifestyle by making fitness fun! (Min class size 6)

LEGO IN MOTION $80: Grades K-3 Young budding engineers love this "hands-on, minds-on" program. Concepts of simple machines such as gears, pulleys, levers and wheels are introduced through a series of activity-card LEGO building projects. With the use of a motor and electrical controls, the models come alive right before their eyes! (Min class size:6)

MINECRAFT SURVIVAL ADVENTURE $80: Grades 2-4 Imagine playing the popular game Minecraft while learning! Students will have to engage in teamwork and collaboration to dodge fireballs from exploding volcanos or hide from a snow giant on Mt. Everest! Students will be solving this survival adventure on a teacher-monitored, closed server. (Min class size:6)

THE GIGGLING PIG $90: Grades K-4
Come explore, giggle, and get creative with us during our after school enrichment. Students will enjoy drawing and working in acrylic and watercolor to create a variety of amazing projects! (Class size Min 7/Max 20)

WEDNESDAYS:

NEW! TAEKWONDO $120: Grades K-4 Did you know that Taekwondo teaches much more than kicks, punches and self defense? It also helps children focus, become peaceful, and gain confidence in a fun and exciting way. Registration fee includes a free uniform ($40 value) and Master Jang has committed a portion of the proceeds back to the PTO! There will also be a Belt Promotion Test at the end of the program. (Min class size: 6, Max: 20)

Registration is due on or before NOVEMBER 1ST and will be done on a first come, first serve basis. Please return form and payment to the Front Office - ATTN: PTO/After School Programs. Checks should be made payable to BHS PTO. Parents should provide a walker note and snack. Dismissal is at 4:50 in the front lobby. Please contact Melissa Zaccagnini at mmzaccagnini@gmail.com with any questions.
BOOTH HILL AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS REGISTRATION FORM:

Name of child: ________________________________________________

Class Registering for: _________________________________________

Grade /Teacher: ______________________________________________

Parent Signature: ___________________________ Date: ______________

Email Address: ______________________________ Phone #: ____________
BHS HOLIDAY FOOD COLLECTION

A Time for Thanks

It is that time of year when Booth Hill takes an active role in collecting food for the needy. We are asking each student to bring in one or more items. On behalf of the children of Booth Hill School the collected non-perishables will be given to the Audrey Dreyer Food Bank housed at Perry Hill School. The items will be used to provide Thanksgiving meals for those less fortunate than ourselves.

Donations accepted October 30th – November 10th

In order to collect a variety of foods, we are asking that you make your donation in the category listed for your child’s grade level although any donation is greatly appreciated.

Kindergarten – breakfast food (cereal, pancake mix, syrup etc.)
Grade 1 – pasta, crackers, rice, stuffing mix
Grade 2 – desserts (cake mixes, boxed cookies, Jell-O, puddings, pudding mixes, etc.) or peanut butter, tuna or condiments
Grade 3 – powdered drink mixes (milk, coffee, tea, etc.)
Grade 4 – canned vegetables and fruits, soups and sauces

Thank you in advance for your donations.
If you have any questions please contact Dana Wirth at danawirth56@yahoo.com.

Dana Wirth and Leigh Boulanger - Community Outreach