



Weekly Bulletin January 8, 2016

*Our primary purpose is to improve student achievement
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Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the past several weeks the issue of social media usage by 9-11 year olds has become an area of focus at Johnson School. It is therefore, that this week the fourth and fifth grades attended grade level assemblies focused on *Internet Safety*.

Together with our School Resource Officer, I discussed the importance of responsible use and safety. I shared with students that social media usage by fourth and fifth graders is not appropriate. Most, if not all, social media sites and apps require students to be 13 years of age to sign up. I emphasized sites such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Vine, and Whisper are **not** suitable for children at this age.

Additionally, SRO Whaley and I shared sites such as Youtube and Minecraft which are popular among our students, are especially concerning as they offer an opportunity to chat with strangers and potential predators. Officer Whaley identified the importance of not sharing their location or identity online. She went on to say, students should not enter into conversations online with individuals they do not know. Students were told texting, iChat, and iMessaging leaves a digital footprint--nothing that is put on the Internet ever goes away, even if it is deleted.

Please take this opportunity to ask your child about the assembly. I appreciate your continued support as we join together in a commitment to keep our children safe. Many children don't realize the consequences that come with social media. They

underestimate how easily accessible their information is, and can forget that others are watching their online activity.

Sincerely,
 Alison A. Salerno
 Principal

January Calendar

- 12 Band Concert at Bethel Middle School 7:00 p.m.**
- 15 Professional Development No School**
- 18 Martin Luther King Day No School**
- 25 Wellness Event 6:30-8:00 p.m.**

February Calendar

- 12 Professional Development 12:56 Dismissal**
- 15 Presidents' Day No School**
- 16 Winter Recess No School**

Morning Drop off Procedures

If you are driving your child to school please use the outside lane. For the safety of each child, please drive your child to the cross walk at the end of the building. Since there is a long line up

of cars dropping off in the morning, please make sure your child is prepared to leave the car as soon as you stop at the crosswalk. A teacher is on duty until 8:10 to assure it is safe for your child to cross the street.

The Bethel Public Schools are committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Bethel Public Schools do not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut State and/or Federal nondiscrimination laws and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The Bethel Public Schools do not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction. Inquiries regarding the Bethel Public Schools nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:
Dr. Kristen Brooks (Title IX District Coordinator)
Assistant Superintendent of the Bethel Public Schools
1 School Street
Bethel, CT 06801

Mrs. McCue is looking for parent volunteers who are interested in preparing art

works for this year's upcoming art show, which will be on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at Johnson School from 5-7 p.m.

Work can be taken home and done at your leisure. It is mainly matting, stapling, labeling, and inventory.

If you are interested in helping to make this year's art show a spectacular success, please e-mail or send in a message with your child.

Thank you!
Ms. Tamarah McCue
Art Educator
McCueT@bethel.k12.ct.us

The District's Family School Partnership Committee is seeking volunteers to serve on the committee. The mission of the Family School Partnership Committee is to create family participation initiatives and program/s for the Bethel K-12 schools that unifies organizations within the district towards the common goal of growing student achievement. The committee meets approximately 5 times per year from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Please contact Dr. Kristen Brooks at brooksk@bethel.k12.ct.us or at [203-794-8613](tel:203-794-8613) if you are interested or have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.