Weekly Bulletin January 29, 2016

Our primary purpose is to improve student achievement Visit our website at www.bethel.k12.ct.us

Principal's Message

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last Thursday the Superintendent presented her proposed 2016-2017 budget to the full Board of Education. The Superintendent's proposed budget is a 2.36% increase over this year's budget. While keeping the economic conditions of the community in mind, the proposed budget maintains all of the programs and services of Johnson School. The recommended increase: (1) maintains appropriate class sizes; (2) continues all specials (art, music, media, physical education, and technology) at its current levels; (3) continues our band, choral and strings programs; (4) continues our support of literacy intervention and (5) supports our remedial summer school programs. In the proposed budget, Dr. Carver also included a position (reallocation of a position) of a Mathematics Interventionist. This position is critical to our work at Johnson School. Much as we have in literacy, it will provide support for our students who have skill gaps in the area of mathematics. We feel that this position is critical to our continued growth as a school and our district purpose of always striving to improve student achievement, aligned to our strategic plan. The Bethel Board of Education will be presenting the budget to the Board of Finance at the municipal center on Monday, February 22, 2015, at 7:00 PM. We encourage you to attend as it will provide a greater depth of understanding regarding details within the budget.

Sincerely, Alison A. Salerno Principal

February Calendar

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

SCHOOL DELAYS/CLOSING

The automated voice call only goes out to parents if students have already arrived at school and we need to have an unexpected early dismissal. ALL after school programs and after school clubs would be canceled in this case. Please have a plan in place with your child for unexpected early dismissal. If school is going to be delayed or closed due to bad weather, it will be announced on local TV channels, radio stations and posted on the district's web-site. If there is a school delay, please do not drop your child off before 9:40 as there is no supervision.

All buses will run on a 2 hour delay schedule. If you have a problem with a bus, please call the bus company at 203-748-8091.

Responsibility Caring Trustworthiness Respect Citizenship Fairness

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 email or send in a message with your child.

Save the date for our Fourth Annual Bethel Public Schools Parent University on February 24, 2016, from 6:30-8:30 at Bethel Middle School. Parent University is a FREE educational program, offered by Bethel Public Schools, for parents and caregivers. Parent University provides parents and caregivers the opportunity to gain a better understanding about what their children are learning and become a full partner in their child's education. More information will be coming soon!

Anote la fecha de nuestro Tercer Ano de La Universidad de Padres de las Escuelas Publicas de Bethel, en Febrero 24, 2016, de 6:30-8:30 pm. La Universidad de Padres es un programa educativo GRATIS, ofrecido por Las Escuelas Publicas de Bethel, para padres y cuidadores. Universidad de Padres provee a padres y cuidadores la oportunidad de obtener un mejor entendimiento acerca de lo que sus ninos estan aprendiendo y a convertirse en companeros integrales en la educacion de sus ninos.

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

Johnson School main number: 794-8700 Absence line: 794-8704



PLEASE HELP SEND 7TH GRADERS TO NATURE'S CLASSROOM

Each year 7th Graders at Bethel Middle School have the opportunity to participate in the week long field trip, Nature's Classroom. Nature's Classroom is a great opportunity for these children to experience environmental education from another perspective, outside the walls of the classroom. The cost of this field trip is \$450 per student. The BMS PTO has always supported students in need. We will continue you that for this year. Additionally, we surveyed the 7th grade parents, and there was a sufficient interest in offering all students the chance to earn part of their tuition by working at a series of fundraisers. This is a great opportunity for more students to afford the trip, and it gives the students a chance to take some ownership in the cost of the trip. Finally, sponsorships are also being accepted, if you wish to contribute please contact, Shani Burke Specht, PTO President, at shaniburkespecht@hotmail.com.

Please join us:

What: Pasta Dinner

When: 1/14/2016 5:30 - 8:00

2/18/2016 5:30 - 8:00 3/11/2016 5:30 - 8:00

Where: BMS Cafeteria

Cost: \$7/person, \$35/family max

Why: Help 7th Graders earn part of their tuition to Nature's Classroom.

To Go Orders are available!

What: Movie Night

When: 1/22/2016 6:00 - 9:00

2/5/2016 6:00 - 9:00 4/7/2016 6:00 - 9:00

Where: BMS Auditorium

Cost: \$5 suggested donation, concessions will be available.

Why: Help 7th Graders earn part of their tuition to Nature's Classroom.



