



# Bryant Bulletin

*A Publication of BRYANT MIDDLE SCHOOL*

460 N. Vernon Dearborn, Michigan 48128

Office: 827-2900 Attendance: 827-2901

*November-December, 2013*

## PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

As the holidays quickly approach, we are reminded that the first semester is quickly coming to an end. If you visit Bryant during the school day, there is a lot of "hustle and bustle." Everyone is working hard!

Thank you to all parents and students who supported the PTA magazine sale. Thank you to all parents who volunteered to assist with pictures, Healthy School tasting, the book fair, the Turkey Trot and all of the wonderful happenings at Bryant. It is absolutely true that it "takes a village" and I am happy to report that we are very lucky to have a wealth of support from parents.

As things get hectic at home, please help your child stay focused on their school work. Teacher blogs are a great way to know what is happening and Parent Connect will tell you how your child is doing and if he/she is missing anything. All students should be reading at least 20 minutes a night. This is an important activity which will improve comprehension and vocabulary acquisition. Together, we can help our children reach their potential.

I hope you have a wonderful vacation and restful start to the new year.

***Mrs. Peterson***

Principal



## UPCOMING PARENT MEETINGS

Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. **MATH** Bryant teachers will present strategies you can use to help your child in math. Hope to see you there!

## BRYANT "DO-GOODER" WINS STATE AWARD

*Partially reprinted from an article that appeared in School Life.*



The Michigan Council of Social Studies has named Isaiah Goddard Student of the Year. "It's awesome I got the award," he said. "But it's not about the award; it's about what you did to be a nice person."

To that end, this cheerful 8<sup>th</sup> grader helps his fellow students, whether it's offering to share his textbook with a student who forgot theirs, school fundraising, or standing up for a student who is being bullied.



## BANDANA/SCARF DONATION

The leadership class is collecting bandanas and scarves to Karmanos Cancer Institute. The scarf/bandana should be large enough to cover someone's head. It is really important to get donations in as soon as possible because Karmanos is COMPLETELY out of scarves/bandanas. We would like the patients suffering from hair loss to feel as confident and comfortable as possible. There will be a box in the Main Office labeled "SCARVES and BANDANAS" for Karmanos Cancer Institute. Thank You. Mr. Renko

*Parents: Copies of the Bryant Newsletter are posted on the Bryant website.  
If you do not have internet access, please contact the school office to receive a hard copy.*

## **BRYANT FAMILY NIGHT & FUNDRAISER:**

Back by popular demand! On Monday, February 17, 2014 and Tuesday, February 18, 2014, join other Bryant families during the mid-winter vacation. Get away without going too far from home to America's LARGEST indoor waterpark and enjoy a special rate for families and friends! Rooms are ONLY \$159 and feature 2 Queen beds (sleeps 4-6) and INCLUDES 4 waterpark passes! A portion from EACH room booked will benefit Bryant Middle School. BOOK EARLY to avoid being shut out. For reservations call: 1-877-525-2427. Limited number available so ask for the Bryant Middle School Group Rate. Up to 2 guests may be added for \$20 each. This offer is not limited to Bryant MS families. Feel free to let family and friends know about this great offer.

## **KALAHARI TRIP (Please Note Date Change)**

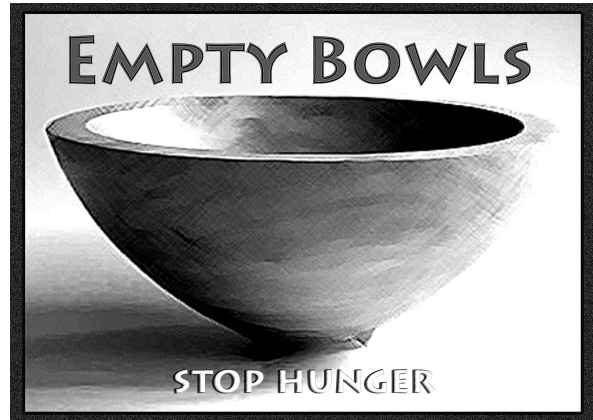
The Kalahari trip is set up for Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. for the students that were the magazine-sale winners. Further information to follow....PTSA

## **BRYANT LUNCHTIME BOOK CLUB**

Mrs. Mualem is beginning a lunch time book club that meets every Wednesday at lunch time. Students put their name in a hat and were randomly selected to participate. Students in the first book club include Maddy Nieman, Lujain Aldabbagh, Anisa Jawad, Rebecca Aho, Amanda Al-Aziz, Bruce Liepe, Elijah Jefferson, Emily Roth, Maeve Jernigan, and Sebastian RiveraMendoza. Mrs. Cataldo is also participating. Our first book selection is *Mount Vernon Love Story* by Mary Higgins Clark. The book is a historical fiction selection about George and Martha Washington. Stay tuned for student reviews. 8th grade students are welcome to enter their names for future book clubs. The selection process will continue to be random.

## **ANNUAL PONYTAIL CUTTING**

For the 10th year, the Howard Elementary School and Bryant Middle School community will be cutting ponytails to donate for children's wigs. The traditional Sing-a-long will be held on Friday, Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, at Howard School. This year, all donations will be delivered to a Michigan company called Children with Hair Loss. If you would like to donate your ponytail, please email Mrs. Clark.



Thank you to all of the Empty Bowl participants who helped out and donated toward the cause. The Art Department raised \$3500 on the evening of the Empty Bowls event (November 25, 2013). More money has been trickling in from staff and the community. This year we are donating towards Gleaners food bank and to the "Blessings in a Backpack" program. The "Blessings in a Backpack" program is a Dearborn program where students get a backpack full of food for the weekend because there is no money or food at home for Saturday and Sunday. This program is now taking place at Snow, Long, and DuVall elementary schools.

Thanks to all.

**Mrs. Reynaert**

Dearborn Schools Art Department

## **ANNUAL BRYANT CANNED FOOD DRIVE**

The Annual Canned Food Drive is underway. This effort is led by our Student Council. Our school goal is to collect 2000 cans.



# BRYANT BASKETBALL CHEERLEADERS

## 8th. Grade

Kara Agemy

Rebecca Aho

Alex Ritz

Abby Stewart

Natalie Talbott

Grace Torrance



## 7th. Grade

Julia Armstrong

Bryttan Barkoff

Aaliyah Fayad

Amanda Krasicky



Coach SLR



Dearborn Public Schools accept a parent's assertion that he or she needs language assistance without requiring additional corroboration. For free help with understanding the content of this document, please call the Student Services office 827-3005 for translation/interpretation Assistance.

**Arabic:** نؤكد مدارس ديربورن على توفير خدمات الترجمة بدون أي شرط للحصول على هذه الخدمة المجانية ونفهم هذه الإستشارة يرجى الإتصال بـ مكتب خدمات الطلاب على الرقم 827-3005

**French:** Les écoles de Dearborn vous offrent le service de traduction sans aucune condition. Si vous souhaitez avoir le service gratuit pour comprendre le contenu de ce document, prière d'appeler le bureau de Services aux Etudiants 827-3005. **Spanish:** Las escuelas de Dearborn aceptan la afirmación de un padre que él o ella necesita ayuda con el idioma sin necesidad de corroboración adicional. Para obtener ayuda gratuita con la comprensión del contenido de este documento, por favor llame a la oficina de Servicios de los Estudiantes 827-3005 para recibir asistencia de traducción / interpretación.

**Italian:** Scuole Dearborn accettare l'affermazione di un genitore che lui o lei ha bisogno di assistenza lingua senza bisogno di ulteriori conferme. Per aiuto con la comprensione del contenuto di questo documento, si prega di chiamare l'ufficio Student Services: 827-3005 per la traduzione / interpretazione di assistenza.

**Albanian:** Shkollat DEARBORN pranohën pohimin e të prindërve që ai ose ajo ka nevojë për ndihmë të gjuhës pa kërkuar vërtetim shtesë. Për ndihmë lirë me kuptuar përmbajtjen e këtij dokumenti, ju lutemi telefononi zyrën e shërbimeve për studentë 827-3005 për përkthim / interpretim ndihmë.

**Romanian:** Școlile orașului Dearborn accepta orice declarație părintească care atestă nevoia copilului de asistență cu limba engleză fără nici o dovadă suplimentară. Dacă aveți nevoie să înțelegeți acest document dați telefonul la oficiul serviciilor școlare la numărul 827-3005 pentru a primi asistență cu traducerea sau interpretarea lui.

**Urdu:** ڈیئر بورن اسکولوں میں والدین کا دعویٰ ہے کہ وہ اپنے بچوں کو اس زبان کی تفہیم کے لیے مدد کی ضرورت ہے اور یہ اضافی تصدیق کے بغیر ہے۔ اس زبان کی تفہیم کے لیے مدد کے لیے بلا شرط خدمات کے لئے 827-3005 پر کال کریں۔

**MEDICATION**

Please note that students are not permitted to self-administer prescription or over the counter medications during school hours. If your physician has determined that medication has to be taken during the school day, a Medical Authorization Form, available in the office must be completely filled out and signed by both the physician and the parent. The form and medication must be submitted to the office. Your child must report to the office to receive their medication. This policy of the Dearborn Public Schools is in accordance with General School Law (Section 380.11780).

**BICYCLE SECURITY**

Students must lock up their bikes in the racks on the north side or south side of the school. It is recommended that bicycles be secured with a strong cable and lock.

**TEXTBOOKS**

Parents can help students avoid end of the year fines, which can amount to a great deal of money, for damaged and lost textbooks by doing the following:

1. Periodically go over each textbook with your child to examine and check for damage. This also shows the child that you will be monitoring his /her progress carefully. It is recommended that books be covered.
2. Do make sure that your child's name is written in the place provided on the inside of the cover with the teacher's name. This will help us get lost books back to the student quickly.
3. Do remind your child not to lend their books to friends as he/she are responsible for the book that they have been assigned.

**Pesticide Prior Notification Request**

As part of the Dearborn Public Schools District's pest management program, pesticides are occasionally applied. You have the right to be informed prior to any pesticide application made to the school grounds and building. In certain emergencies, pesticides may be applied without prior notice, but you will be provided notice following any such application. If you need prior notification, please complete the information below and submit to:

***Shannon Peterson***  
Principal, Bryant Middle School  
460 N. Vernon  
Dearborn, MI 48128 (313) 827-2900

Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Numbers (Daytime) \_\_\_\_\_ (Evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

- I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment inside of the building.
- I wish to be notified prior to a scheduled pesticide treatment on the outside grounds of the school.
- Both of the above

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT**

No electronic equipment is allowed in school. Examples are portable cameras, iPods, hand held games, and PDA's. These items are frequently lost or stolen and disrupt the educational process. School personnel will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

If an electronic device is seen or heard, it will be confiscated and returned only to a parent on the following day. The second time an electronic device is confiscated will result in a detention and a parent/guardian retrieving the device on the following Monday. If a student is caught using an electronic in class, the device will be confiscated and returned the following Monday to a parent or guardian. Repeated offenses may result in further discipline.

## **CELL PHONES**

Dearborn Public Schools policy on cell phones is that they cannot be seen or heard. We discourage students from bringing them to school. If a phone is brought to school, it must be turned off and locked in the locker until 2:55 p.m. Students may not use their phones inside the school, or on the buses. Phones may only be used after school and outside of the building.

School personnel will not be responsible for lost or stolen phones. If a cell phone is seen or heard, it will be confiscated and returned only to a parent or guardian the following day. The second time a cell phone is confiscated will result in a parent/guardian picking up the cell phone on the following Monday. If a student is caught using a cell phone or if the cell phone rings in class, the cell phone will be confiscated, a detention will be assigned, and the phone will be returned the following Monday to a parent or guardian. Repeated offenses may result in further discipline.

## **PARENT CONNECT**

Please take advantage of this exciting service. Parent Connect allows parents to view their student's grades in real time through the web. We encourage every parent to sign up and access Parent Connect regularly. To obtain your PIN number, email [corpols@dearbornschools.org](mailto:corpols@dearbornschools.org).

## **LUNCH PRICES**

Complete Lunch \$2.75  
Sandwiches \$2.50  
Fries \$1.25 and \$1.75  
Salads and Fruit \$.75 - \$3.25  
Desserts \$.30 - \$1.25

## **FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH**

Students who received free or reduced lunches last year will be continued in September. Everyone will need to reapply to continue free or reduced lunch after September. The forms are available in the office.

## **LUNCH CHARGES**

Lunch charges may be made for the lunch entrée only and must be paid back within one week. Students may not exceed \$5.00 in charges. The balance must be paid before any further charging is allowed.



## **SCHOOL BUS INFORMATION**

Eligible students should have received a postcard from our transportation department telling them where they should wait for their bus and the pick up time. Students should make a point to learn their bus number and their driver's face. This makes it much easier to find the bus at dismissal time.

Riding the school bus is a privilege. Students are expected to behave as young adults on all buses. Students who misbehave will face a range of consequences including loss of riding privileges. All questions regarding transportation should be addressed to the Transportation Department at 827-3300.

## **REPORTING ABSENCE/TARDY**

*Attendance Phone 827-2901*

The voice mail is available 24 hours a day. Please call before 8:00 a.m. on the day the student will be absent or late. If we do not receive a call from a parent regarding the student's absence, a call will be made to your home phone to notify you of the absence. If a student must leave school due to illness or an appointment, a parent or guardian will be required to show a driver's license to sign them out. No child will be released to anyone not appearing on the Emergency card without written permission from a parent either by email or fax. If the student returns to school during the day, he/she must report to the office to sign in and get a pass back to class. Homework can be requested if a student is absent three consecutive days.

## **ATHLETIC/ ACADEMIC FEES**

To participate in athletics, middle school students must pay a \$50.00 activity fee. Participation requires the above fees to be paid before the activity begins. Other activities require a fee of \$20.00. This includes: Math Counts, academic games, chess, art club, etc.

## **LATE START DATES**

School begins at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates. Doors open at 8:50 a.m.

**September 11, 2013**

**October 2, 2013**

**November 13, 2013**

**December 11, 2013**

**January 8, 2014**

**February 12, 2014**

**March 12, 2014**

**April 9, 2014**

**May 14, 2014**

## **8TH GRADE PARENTS**

Research has shown that the 8th grade year is critical to success in high school. Please discuss with your child the importance of being on task and focused at school. We expect the 8th graders to be role models for the younger students.

As you are aware, your son/daughter will enter high school and be required to meet the new State of Michigan graduation requirements. The curriculum leading to graduation is much more precise and demanding than past ones. Part of that curriculum allows boards of education the ability to give high school graduation credit for courses taken in the middle school. Taking high school credit at the middle school level can provide students greater opportunity for electives at the high school level.

The Dearborn Board of Education offers students the opportunity to earn high school credit for math and Spanish while in 8th grade. These classes are based upon the High School Content Expectations and should mirror high school rigor.

Students passing these classes will receive a credit toward high school graduation. The class will appear on the student's high school transcript.

