



Bryant Bulletin

A Publication of BRYANT MIDDLE SCHOOL

460 N. Vernon Dearborn, Michigan 48128

Office: 827-2900 Attendance: 827-2901

January/February 2016

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Happy New Year!! I hope that each Bryant family enjoyed vacation time with family and friends. It is great to have your children back in school.

Second semester is about to begin with changes to schedules and activities. Students will adjust quickly to new elective courses. In addition to these changes, we are in the process of hiring a new part-time language arts teacher. There will be a realignment of current staff to reduce the large 7th grade social studies and 8th grade language arts classes. These changes will impact a number of student schedules in these respective grades. Thank you, in advance, for your support as we make these necessary changes.

Please remind your child of the importance of taking advantage of the start of a new semester. Each student has developed goals for the school year. These goals have been developed with the assistance of our teachers and are documented in each child's planner under a section called 'My Learning Plan'. These goals can be as simple as getting a higher GPA, studying in a quiet area each night or turning in all assignments. Additionally, students have been encouraged to develop a personal goal as well and improve their RIT scores on all NWEA tests. Take a few minutes and review your child's goals for the year.

Teachers have created interactive blogs to assist with communication between the classroom and the home. Teacher/staff websites let you know what is being studied and homework that has been assigned. There is also a school blog that highlights important events and happenings at Bryant and throughout Dearborn Public Schools. Parent Connect and Student Connect are also valuable tools that you can use to stay informed of your child's academic progress. A tutorial has been created that highlights the steps to access these accounts and is posted on the school blog.

If your child needs additional academic support, he/she may qualify for support through one of our extended day programs. If interested, please contact the school office for more information.

Thank you for partnering with us as we work together to produce future leaders in our community.

Mr. Denison

Principal

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 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 administrative approval. 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.

UPCOMING TESTING

January 4 - 29	NWEA Testing
February 8 thru March 23	WIDA Testing
February 23	PSAT Testing <i>8th graders only</i>
April	M-Step - 8th grade
April/May	M-Step - 7th grade
May	M-Step - 6th grade
May	NWEA Testing

Parents: Copies 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.

FROM THE DESK OF MR. DEAR

Making Good Choices

Second Semester brings with it the promise of nicer weather, class trips, outdoor activities, and new adventures as we look to the next year, but sometimes those promises get in the way of making the best choices. Often times we hear adults ask us if we made the best choice, what does that really mean. The best choice under the circumstances, the best choice for all involved, the best choice for now, or the best choice for the future? The correct answer is all of the above. When you make choices it is necessary to consider all of the possible effects of that choice.

If you choose to toss someone's lunch out of the bus window, it is obvious that the person most affected is the young man or young lady who no longer has a lunch. What about the driver of the car behind the bus who is shocked by the bag hitting the windshield, slams on the brakes in busy morning traffic, slides on the wet road, and hits another car. Now two individuals are unable to continue their morning commute, and are late for work as they wait for the police to make a report. I doubt you thought about that as you tossed the lunch, or planned on it happening that way, but the chain reaction of bad choices is often unpredictable.

Now consider making a good choice. You are on the way home from school, you notice an elderly man having trouble fixing a flat tire. You don't know a lot about changing tires, but you do know that you could help in removing the flat, and lifting the new tire into place if directed to do so. You stop and help, the elderly man is very grateful, but has no reward for your kindness. You were hoping for something, but you choose to be polite, wish the gentleman well, and head home. The next morning you are called to the office, and a phone message is played for you. It is the elderly gentleman and his daughter. They have called the school to thank you again and let us know how proud we should be of your actions. Your reward is realized and you can proudly face the rest of the day knowing you truly made a difference in someone's day.

As you continue to make choices this year, stop and think, "Who will be affected by my choice, is it a positive effect, or a negative effect, and what will be the outcome be.

"Have the courage to choose, use your knowledge to choose well"

Kelly Dear

Assistant Principal

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.

LATE START DATES

School begins at 9am on the following dates. Doors open at 8:50am.

January 20, 2016

February 10, 2016

March 16, 2016

May 11, 2016



NO SCHOOL FEBRUARY 12 and 15

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 texts by doing the following:

1. Periodically go over each text book 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:

Andrew Denison
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 busses. 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. Sign up forms can be found in the office or on the Bryant Middle School website.

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.



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: تؤكد مدارس ديربورن على توفير خدمات الترجمة بدون أي شرط للحصول على هذه الخدمة المجانية ولفهم هذه الإستمارة يرجى الإتصال بمكتب 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:** Shkolla DEARBORN pranojnë 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: Scolile orasului Dearborn accepta orice declaratie parinteasca care atesta nevoia copilul de asistenta cu limba engleza fara nici o dovada suplimentara. Daca aveti nevoie sa intelegeti acest document da-ti telefon la oficiul serviciilor scolare la numarul 827-3005 pentru a primi asistenta cu

ڈیئر بورن اسکولوں میں والدین کا دعویٰ ہے کہ وہ یا وہ اضافی تعاون کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے بغیر زبان امداد کی ضرورت ہے کو قبول کرتے ہیں۔ اس دستاویز کے مواد کو سمجھنے کے ساتھ مفت میں مدد کے لئے، براہ مہربانی مدد ترجمہ / تشریح کے لئے طالب علم کی خدمات کے دفتر کو کال کریں 827-3005