



The Middle School Eagle

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome back to all our Berkley Middle School students, families, faculty and staff. We hope you have had a restful and enjoyable summer vacation and are eager to return to school, for what we know will be a positive and productive year for all of us. We have been working very hard over the summer to prepare a challenging, rewarding and exciting educational experience for each of you. Our number one goal continues to be to guide, support, empower and encourage your child to be the best student he or she can be, while providing a safe, secure and nurturing school climate to learn and grow as individuals. We want to ensure that your child's educational environment not only meets their individual learning needs but also challenges them to grow and develop strategies that will assist them beyond the four walls of the classroom setting. Please feel free to let us know how we can help you throughout your child's school year with us. Remember to visit our website for important updates and information throughout the school year at www.berkeleypublicschools.org.

Here's to a year full of potential and promise! Believe in the possibilities!!!

Focus

"...if you have a purpose in which you can believe, there's no end to the amount of things you can accomplish."

Marian Anderson

BMS IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 8	Open House	5:30-7:30 PM
Sept. 12	School Committee Mtg.-Library	6:30 PM
Sept. 15	Sept. Community Forum-BCS	8:00 PM
Sept. 19	Music Instrument Rental Night-Café'	6:30 PM
Sept. 22	Social Gr. 5 & 6-Gym	2:30-4:00PM
Sept. 29	Early Release-NO LUNCH SERVED	12:00 PM
Sept. 30	Dance Gr. 7 & 8-Café'	6:30-8:30 PM

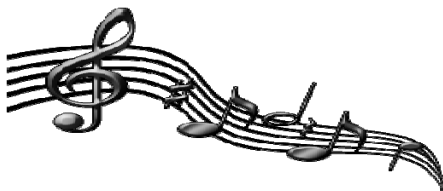
IMPORTANT DATES FOR OCTOBER

Oct. 4	Picture Day
Oct. 10	NO SCHOOL-Columbus Day
Oct. 17	Oct. Community Forum-BMS



END OF THE DAY DISMISSAL

Students riding a bus will be dismissed first at the end of the day. The names of students being picked up by parents will be written on a sign-out sheet to be announced at 2:25PM, prior to buses, but will not be released from the class until "ALL OTHERS" have been called. **Please make note of our 2:25 dismissal time.**



MUSIC INSTRUMENT RENTAL NIGHT

On Monday, Sept. 19, 2011, at 6:30 PM, a representative from Eastern Music will be in the cafeteria at BMS. All students who will need to rent an instrument for band and/or instrument lessons should attend with a parent/guardian. You can pay by cash or check that evening.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

There is to be no stopping, standing, parking, picking up or dropping off in front of the Middle School office. **Please note that this is a FIRE LANE where the curb has been painted yellow.** Standing vehicles in this area also make access to the handicapped parking spaces very difficult. For short-term stopping, standing and student pick-up and drop-off, **please use the curb area in front of the flagpole.** Any extended wait should be done in the parking area, keeping clear of the handicap parking area.

SURROUND CARE NEWS



The Surround Care before and afterschool program begins this year with a total enrollment of 96 families and 130 children ranging from preschool through grade 8. We are proud to be serving so many families! If you have a child enrolled in Surround Care, you must check your family mailbox. Mailboxes for children enrolled in PS-4th grade will be located across from the cafeteria at BCS. If your child is in the Middle School Program, your mailbox will be located in the Cafetorium at the Middle School. If you have a child in each building, your mailbox will be located at the Community School unless you are told otherwise. These mailboxes are used for outgoing mail only. Please be sure to check your mailbox this week for your Parent Handbook and important notices regarding the program. Weekly payments are to be left in the Surround Care mailbox located outside the cafeteria at BCS or in the mailbox located in the Cafetorium at the Middle School. Payments should be made according to the payment schedule that you will receive in your family mailbox. Children should not be responsible for delivering weekly payments! Welcome back to our Surround Care staff members who will be providing students with a variety of activities in an environment which is safe, supportive, relaxed and fun: Susan Medeiros, Tracey Velozo, Candy Maguire, Sara Lacroix, Loretta Marshall, Danielle Donovan, Claire Moniz, Katelyn Costa, Teresa Vaslet and Mary Lou Taber. If you would like information about the Surround Care Program, please contact Surround Care Coordinator, Michelle Fiola at (508)822-8567.



WALKERS & BIKE RIDERS

All students who walk or ride their bikes to and from school must have written permission. Remember helmets are the law for bike riders.



IMPORTANT BUS INFORMATION

Please note that our buses are running at **full** capacity. It is **not** possible to honor requests for students to ride home on **any bus other than their own**.

FROM THE CAFETERIA

WELCOME BACK to everyone! Best wishes for a great 2011-2012 school year. The cafeteria staff is waiting to serve you. At the beginning of each month a copy of the menu will be sent home to each household. This year the cost of a student lunch will be \$2.50. This includes a full lunch, 8oz milk or 8oz water, fruit and soup, when available. After purchasing a lunch, an ala Carte item (extra burger for example) may be purchased for \$1.75. If you bring a lunch from home you will be able to purchase milk for 60 cents. The price of an adult lunch will be \$3.40.

Lunch Cards will be sold on Monday mornings at 8:00 (as you get off the bus) at the Middle School and during homeroom at the Community School. The price of a 5 day lunch card is \$12.50. If you purchase a lunch card it does not have to be used during the week in which it was purchased. It is good until all 5 boxes have been punched.

If you were part of the free/reduced lunch program last year you will be able to continue that status for (2) two weeks only. Everyone, should take a moment to fill out and return these forms, you might be pleasantly surprised! Any application with an income level that exceeds governmental guidelines will be entered into a drawing, which will be held on September 30, 2011. This will allow one lucky student to receive free lunch for the entire school year. REMEMBER, Free and Reduced Lunch applications are available in the main office of either the Middle School or the Community School and are accepted throughout the year. Consider this if your income changes in any way due to seasonal work temporary lay off, job change or for any other reason.

Have a wonderful year, if you have questions or comments please feel free to call me at 508-884-9434 x 318. Sincerely, John D. Mendes, Director of Food Services



Welcome Back



www.berkleypublicschools.org