



BLACKSTONE-MILLVILLE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
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Charger Express

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians;

As we begin the second semester of the school year, there are many important items to bring to your attention.

Second quarter Report Cards will be distributed to students on Wednesday, February 3, 2010. The next student Progress Reports will be distributed on Tuesday, March 9, 2010.

Spring MCAS tests will start on March 1st with a round of makeup tests for those Juniors and Seniors who may not have as yet achieved competency on the tests. Sophomores will test in late March, May and June. Prior to the tests, we will offer MCAS tutoring through an Academic Support Grant. Students who are at risk to achieve proficiency on the tests will be contacted and are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this after school learning opportunity. The program is slated to begin the week of February 8th.

We recently held a school wide assembly concerning global climate change. Mr. Julian Rodrigues-Drix from the Alliance for Climate Education spoke to our students about climate change and how they can make a difference in our future.

I am very proud to report to you that Mr. Ronald Bibeault, our music director, will be enshrined in the Massachusetts Educators Music Hall of Fame. He has been recognized due to his many years of hard work and dedication to our highly successful music program.

BMR high school has instituted a Wall of Fame. The purpose is to recognize alumnus who have distinguished themselves in society or excelled in their chosen field. There is also a distinguished service award for retired high school faculty members. Nomination forms can be found at bmrtd.net/high_school/index.htm or in the main office. A celebratory banquet is planned for May 14th. The deadline for nominations is March 1, 2010.

Important Dates:

February 10	7:00	HS Jazz Concert
February 13-22		Winter Recess - No School
February 25	4:00 -8:00	Empty Bowl Dinner NHS
March 1-5		MCAS retests
March 1	5:30 - 8:30	Spring Athletic Meeting (Aud)
March 9		Progress Reports Distributed
March 9	3:00	Dodge Ball Tournament
March 11	6:00 - 8:00	Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences
March 12		Teacher Professional Development No- School
March 12	7:00 - 9:30	3 rd Annual Band-Aide Concert
March 23-25		MCAS ELA tests
May 17-18		MCAS Math tests

Seniors Guidance News

- All college applications should be in to Guidance by now. If you have an application that has to be processed, see your counselor ASAP.
- Looking for Financial Aid? Remember to register at fafs.ed.gov. Register and complete your application by February 14, 2010
- Notify Guidance once you are accepted so that your name is posted.
- If you have no After High School plans, contemplate a community college application so that you will continue health insurance.

Scheduling for 2010-2011

Assemblies will be held the week of February 22 to review the course selection process with students. Current teachers will be making recommendations for next year.

Look for teacher initials on the course selection sheet before signing. If you have any questions, please call Guidance at 508-876-0104.

Campus Visits

- Seeing a campus firsthand helps in the decision making.
- List schools of interest. Next, map out a touring plan.
- Schedule tours online or by phone
- While on campus, visit dining hall, library, student union and other important areas.

Medley Messages

- Gearing up for a standardized test? Suggest that your child read each question and all the possible answers. Students should answer the easiest questions first and mark the ones they may skip to go back to.

- Recent studies indicate that less than 10% of high school students get enough sleep on school nights. Encourage your child to get their homework done early so there is time to relax before going to bed.
- Does your teen like to buy music or shop online? Tell him/her to look for an s in the URL (<https://>) or a closed padlock on the screen. These are signs that the site is less prone to security problems.

School Committee Update – February, 2009

It's the beginning of budget time once again. While the Governor has promised to hold Chapter 70 money at the FY10 level, a real tightening of the belts must occur since many costs have increased. The Superintendent and her administration are developing 3 budgets for FY11: a level service budget, a budget with a 5% cut (over \$1 million), and one with a 10% cut (over \$2 million). The School Committee has met with all principals and administrators to see how these budgets would impact the services we provide. We are looking at ways to both save and raise money.

To keep the lines of communication open, the School Committee will meet with the Boards of Selectmen and Finance from Blackstone and Millville on Thursday, Feb. 11th.

A subcommittee of the School Committee has begun meeting with the Teachers Union Negotiation Team to come to agreement for another contract. The current contract expires on August 31, 2010.

A Principal Search Committee was formed to find Mr. Campbell's successor. As you know, Mr. Campbell will be retiring on June 30th as the principal of the John F. Kennedy and A. F. Maloney complex. The Search Committee conducted interviews the last week of January and will decide on which candidates to move forward to the final selection process.

In addition, a Search Committee is being formed to fill the position of Director of Special Services. Patricia Connolly, a retiree, has filled in part-time for the past 18 months, as a viable full time person could not be found at the time.

School Committee Meetings: Feb. 4th and 25th at 7PM in the F. W. Hartnett Media Center

BLACKSTONE-MILLVILLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS

Submitted by Ann Lesperance, Secretary
Blackstone-Millville Education Foundation

The Blackstone-Millville Education Foundation (BMEF) is a non-profit organization, which supports educational programs in the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District. Founded in 1996, BMEF has awarded approximately \$85,000 in grants to fund projects from all schools in the District. Each project is chosen because it adds to the quality of education for the children the BMR School District. Projects must be in-line with the school curriculum and school improvement plan.

For the 2009-10 school year, over \$6,500.00 was awarded to fully or partially fund 17 individual projects. At the John F. Kennedy and A. F. Maloney schools, 5 grants were awarded: "Around the World with Puppets", "Traveling Art Exhibit", "Story time Reading Rug", "Author Program of Alaska", and "African Drumming". Millville Elementary School was selected to receive 3 awards: "Author Visit", "Closing the Gap on Fluency", and "Fitness Skillastics".

At the F. W. Hartnett Middle School, 3 grants were given: "The Inside Scoop", "Using Guided Math Centers", and "Connecting Children's Literature". The largest number of grants was awarded to the High School. Six projects were funded: "Motion Detector Classroom", "Understanding Modern Printing", "Treadmill", "Quick Fire Cook-off", "Keeping BMR in Bloom", and "Literary Magazine".

You can help BMEF earn money anytime you shop or book a vacation online through Charity Blast. Some of the stores include: Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, Dell, Dick's, Kohl's, Old Navy, Orbitz, Staples and Target to name a few! Go to www.CharityBlast.com, select Blackstone-Millville Education Foundation from the menu, click on a store or vendor's ad, and shop. BMEF will receive a percentage of every sale.

The main source of revenue has been through an annual golf tournament held in the summer. This year's event is scheduled for Friday, August 6th at Crystal Lake Golf Course. It includes 18 holes of golf, followed by dinner and a raffle. Check the foundation's website, www.thebmfcom, for information which will be posted this spring or email Keith Ducharme at kducharme@bmrsl.net with any questions.

Richard Porter,
Principal

NOTE:

Please call the main office at the school if you would like this document translated into a language other than English.

Por favor, contate a secretaria central da escola caso deseje que este documento seja traduzido para o português.

Por favor, llame a la oficina central de la escuela si usted desea que este documento sea traducido al español.

الرجاء الإتصال بالمكتب الرئيسي في المدرسة إذا أردتم ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية..