



Bordentown Regional School District

The Bordentown Bulletin

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September 2017

Visit us on the web at www.bordentown.k12.nj.us

Superintendent's Office

Dr. Edward J. Forsthoffer III

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. Our district newsletter is posted each month on our homepage so that you can stay current on what is happening in our school district. Each month or curriculum department will share an article regarding our curriculum and our principals will share stories of what is occurring in their buildings.

If you are a parent, when you read the newsletter you may already be aware of the information in the article from the principal where your child attends. However, please take a few moments to look through all of the articles so that you will have a better understanding of what is occurring across the district.

We have a number of district initiatives that we are pursuing over this year. We have made facility improvements in the CBS multipurpose room and the middle school driveway. We have introduced a new hands-on science curriculum in our elementary schools. During this year we will also undertake a number of improvements such as improving the gymnasium lighting at PMS, updating our application and hiring process, focus more on academic recognition and continuing to focus on our strategic plan.

One other issue that we will tackle this year will be the configuration of our pre-K through fifth grade schools. Because of imbalances in our pre-K to three schools, we have one school more crowded than the other and we have a disproportionate representation of children with special needs. We began exploring remedies last year and have collected a lot of information for possible improvements. However, we still need to share what we have been exploring. I will be holding open forums on this particular issue, next month to share what we have been exploring and hear you thoughts. The meetings will be:

- October 5, Clara Barton Elementary School (7:00 in the all purpose room)
- October 10, MacFarland intermediate School (7:00 in the all purpose room)
- October 12, Peter Muschal Elementary School (7:00 in the all purpose room)

I hope that you can come to one of these meetings to learn about the issue and share some of your thoughts and ideas. However, if you are unable to make one of these meetings, there will be a survey sent out to collect further data before we make a decision on the direction of the school district.

Administration

Dr. Edward J. Forsthoffer III
Superintendent

Mr. Eloi Richardson, CPA
Business Administrator
Board Secretary

Mr. James Lympert
Director of
Curriculum and Instruction

Ms. Vanessa Bekarciak
Director of Special Services

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Summer Learning

This summer our teachers had the opportunity to attend two summer professional development opportunities held in our district. Teachers in grades kindergarten through eighth grade learned about the Standards for Mathematical Practice as they apply to the teaching of mathematics and our Everyday Math program in grades K-5. Ms. Kelly Rimer spent two days with our teachers in two different grade level clusters addressing how teachers can incorporate the Standards for Mathematical Practice to help with building a strong mathematical foundation.



In addition to the opportunities in which current BRSD teachers engaged, teachers new to the district participated in the annual New Teacher Academy during the final week of August. The academy is designed to help all new staff members in their transition to the district. From state-mandated trainings on topics such as school law and harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB) to professional opportunities focused on honing their craft, our new teachers came together to begin their time in Bordentown.



During the academy, our new teachers also had the opportunity to learn about Bordentown's history. After a brief walking tour in Bordentown City, and prior to embarking on a bus tour of the districts' municipalities, new teachers were treated to a presentation by Dr. Michael Skelly from the Bordentown Historical Society. Dr. Skelly engaged teachers with stories of historical figures who passed through and lived in Bordentown while showing them historical artifacts exhibited in the Bordentown Friends Meeting House.



BRHS News & Notes – September 2017

On behalf of the staff and administration, we welcome you to another exciting school year at Bordentown Regional High School! Make sure to sign up for our Parent Newsletter and continue to check our website for all kinds of cool stuff. The 2017-18 school year promises to bring academic challenges and social growth for all our students. We invite you to take an active role in all we have to offer.

Stay tuned in and support our Scotties!

<u>BRHS Welcomes New Staff Members</u>	<u>Homecoming is near – Oct. 9-14</u>
Robert Zimmer – CST – LDT	U.S. Cities:
Morgan Gibbons - English	Seniors – <i>New Orleans</i>
Saba Pullella - Science	Juniors – <i>New York City</i>
Amy Rabenda – from BRMS – Counselor	Sophomores – <i>Las Vegas</i>
Leah Ducey – Science	Freshman – <i>San Francisco</i>
Cara Jones – From BRMS – Special Ed.	<u>Dress Up Days</u>
Archna Ashish – Computer Science/Robotics	Tuesday – Decades Day
Erik Schmalbach – Math Maternity	Wednesday – Character Day
Erin Schweiger – Athletic Trainer	Thursday – Class Color Day
	Friday - School Colors Day
<u>Reminders & Upcoming Events</u>	
Senior Portrait retakes – September 18, 19	
Underclass pictures – September 18, 19, 20	
BRHS Back to School Night – Tuesday September 19 – 6:30 pm	
School Closed – September 21 – Rosh Hashanah	
Principal Advisory Meeting – September 27 – 6:30 pm	
Powder Puff Football Game – September 28 – 6:00 pm	
Green Slip Breakfast – September 29 – 1 st period	
<u>Vocal Solo Night – October 4 – 7:30 pm</u>	
Pink Out Day & Football Game – October 6	
School Closed – October 9 – Teacher in-service	
Homecoming Hall Decorating October 9 – 2:00-6:00 pm	
BRHS Spirit Week – October 9-14	
PSAT Testing – October 11 – 7:30 am	
Homecoming Pep Rally – Friday, October 13 – 1:40 pm	
Homecoming Queen & Football Game - Friday, October 13 – 7:00	
Homecoming King & Dance – Saturday, September 24 th – 7:00-10:00 pm	
<u>Colleges and Universities visiting BRHS – September & October</u>	
Albright College	September 14
Virginia Commonwealth University	September 15
Stockton University	September 22
Drexel University	October 3
Rider University	October 10
Monmouth University	October 12
University of Delaware	October 18
St. Joseph's University	October 26

BORDENTOWN REGIONAL MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS AND NOTES APRIL 2017

BRMS STAFF WELCOMES STUDENTS:

To help students start the new school year with a positive attitude, BRMS teachers surprised students with inspirational messages. Staff met after school to write upbeat chalk messages on the sidewalks leading to the school's student entrances. On the first Friday of the school year, students were greeted with messages such as "This way to a great year," "Good times ahead," and "Awesome enters here." Teachers hope to continue promoting a positive mindset with surprise sidewalk messages throughout the school year.



BRMS STAFF WELCOMES NEW STAFF:

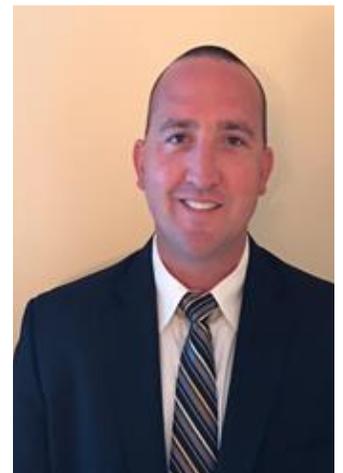
Here is a list of the new members of the Bordentown Regional Middle School Bobcat Community. These new staff members are eager to become part of our team and make a dynamic impact on the lives of our students. We are proud to welcome them aboard.

Marlo Chavez- Maternity Leave for Spanish
Sean Cunningham –Special Education Language Arts
Megan Davis- Math
Terry Degnon- Aide
Jacqueline Ferrell- Aide
Rochelle Gallo- Aide
Phyllis Mozden- Aide
Patricia Lee – School Nurse
Christina Watson – Science

MEET THE NEW ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF BRMS:

On Wednesday, September 6, 2017, the Board of Education approved the hire of Bob Schurtz as the new Assistant Principal of our Bordentown Regional Middle School. Bob Schurtz will be replacing Lisa Sabo, who will transition back as the new Assistant Principal at the High School. A local Mansfield resident, where he lives with his wife, Jamie, and two beautiful girls, Summer (3) and Saylor (1), Bob is ecstatic for the opportunity to continue his career in education, now as an administrator. This passion is not unique, however, as Bob grew up in a family of educators where both parents, older brother and sister all work, or have recently retired from working in education.

Bob comes to us from West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District, where he taught Social Studies and coached for the last twelve years. He excelled both in the classroom, as a distinguished-level teacher of multiple levels, different subject areas, and various grades, as well as a coach, being named Coach of the Year five times as the Head Boys Basketball Coach and twice as the Head Boys Golf Coach. Schurtz also served as an assistant coach for the Varsity football, lacrosse, and track & field programs besides being involved on various school committees, mentoring, and advising several clubs. While new to our school system, Schurtz is very familiar with the community and hopes his local involvement will only grow as he begins his career as a BRMS Bobcat!



The Faculty, Staff, and students of Clara Barton School would like to welcome everyone back to school! We are so pleased to meet our new Kindergarten friends and new-to-CBS friends as well as welcome back our old friends for another year of learning at CBS. **The CBS Playground stage II has arrived!** Have you seen the new playground equipment? Through the tireless efforts of twelve years of fundraising by the CBS PTO we have new equipment. The journey began twelve years ago and has been fostered and supported through many PTOs here at Clara Barton. This idea germinated when our current seniors were at Clara Barton! Through the leadership of Karen Hofrichter and the current PTO under the leadership of Caroline Conroy and the Playground Committee they finally succeeded in this great achievement. You are invited to the groundbreaking on Tuesday September 26 at 6 p.m. on the playground!



One of our first assemblies of every year is a safety assembly sponsored by the Bordentown City Police Department. This year the Officer Phil Program presented the assembly on Monday September 11. Our CBS students were amazed by the magic and engaged in the presentation, which addressed stranger danger, bullying, internet safety, safety rules, and meeting "VIPs" (Very Important Pals) from the Bordentown City Police force. We at Clara Barton have been fortunate that the Bordentown City Police, City of Bordentown and numerous local businesses have partnered year after year to bring this presentation to the students at Clara Barton and we extend our continual thanks for their generosity. Thank you! A coloring book was sent home with your student but you may stay connected at officerphil.com to reinforce these lessons. Throughout the year you may check online or work on the Activity Books your children brought home and read through and implement the lessons and tips found there and on the webpage to help keep your children safe.

When your child is absent, you are required to notify the school at 298-0676 ext. 3102 before 9:00 A.M.

CBS SCHEDULE

K-3	Normal	Half Day	1 Hour Delay	2 Hour Delay
Arrival	8:25	8:25	9:25	10:25
Dismissal	3:15	12:40	3:15	3:15

Peter Muschal Elementary welcomes back the Junior Safety Patrol Program



The Peter Muschal Elementary School started a Junior Safety Patrol Program last year in the fall of 2016, led by Mr. D'Annunzio and Mrs. Gray. We are extremely excited to have this very rewarding program back for its second year. Patrollers at Peter Muschal Elementary School shoulder responsibilities that strengthen character and provide opportunities to help fellow students develop and better understand pedestrian safety and bus safety. Bus patrollers have helped younger students enter and exit their bus safely and have helped monitor our hallways and walk younger children to class. Some Junior Safety Patrollers assist the kindergarten teachers with their students every morning by helping them get unpacked and assisting them with morning meeting.

Fifty-three third grade patrollers volunteer their time each day to be a part of Junior Safety Patrol. Not only do the patrollers give their time to perform their daily duties, they are also required to attend regularly scheduled meetings twice a month. At these meetings, patrollers are trained on how to perform their patrol duties and learn the importance of responsibility and dedication.

Last year, the patrollers attended a Trenton Thunder Game, where they were acknowledged for their outstanding leadership and commitment to the program. At the game, we had one patroller throw out a first pitch. Later in the year, one of our patrollers was awarded patroller of the year in Burlington, N.J. As a school, our patrollers were given end-of-the-year awards for all their hard work and commitment to the program.

Mr. D'Annunzio and Mrs. Gray are looking forward to further growth and development of the Junior Safety Patrol Program at Peter Muschal Elementary School throughout the coming years.



This Month

September 6 – Board of Education Meeting

September 20 – Board of Education Meeting

September 21 – Rosh Hashanah – SCHOOL CLOSED

Next Month

October 4 – Board of Education Meeting

October 9 – Staff In-Service – No school for all students

October 18 – Board of Education Meeting

October 31 – ½ Day for all students – Staff Workshops



"You're off to great places,

Today is your day,

Your mountain is waiting,

So get on your way."

[Dr. Seuss](#)

Thank you for checking in with The Bordentown Bulletin!