

Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School

◆ 45 Westminster Road, Canterbury, CT 06331 ◆ Phone: 860•546•9421 ◆ Fax: 860•546•6289

To: Canterbury Board of Education
From: Mr. Ryan Earley
Subject: BMS Administrator's Report
Date: May 9, 2019

Student enrollment has increased slightly during the past month with a population increase of 2 students. Student enrollment is at Grade 5: 47; Grade 6: 43; Grade 7: 38; and Grade 8: 53. The school is preparing for the end of the year as our 8th graders leave BMS and also preparing for 2019-20 and providing a most engaging learning environment for all.

After School Program/ Homework Club: Each Monday and Wednesday over the past several months, students have had a quiet and teacher supported location to complete their weekly work and receive remediation. Additionally, the fitness room and gym are used to allow students space to work out and stay active. Special thanks to all who have helped make this program viable: Mr. Brophy, Mr. Tattersall, Ms. Zuckerman, Ms. Huband and Mrs. Shafer.

Professional Development April 12, 2019: On the Friday afternoon before vacation, the BMS faculty met together and reviewed questioning techniques and the variations between the traditional aspects of questioning and the ways that the Next Generation Assessments ask students to demonstrate skills and content knowledge on the computer adaptive testing. Additionally, teachers reflected on best practices and ways to plan for more engaging questions in the future. It was a great afternoon for all.

BMS Spring Dance on Friday April 26, 2019: Students joined together on Friday evening for a night of dancing and snacking as Mr. Beit coordinated a great Spring dance. A special thanks to all parents who made snacks and chaperoned.

NJHS Visits Covenant Food Pantry on Saturday April 27, 2019: Early on a Saturday morning, Mrs. Waters coordinated a field trip to the food pantry where students volunteered their time and learned the inner workings of the community program.

2nd Annual Arts Night on Friday May 3, 2019: The music and art programs coordinated a special evening spotlighting the BMS chorus and band followed by an art show that exhibited student work from all grade levels and medium. This was and is an exceptional way to show the various talents of our students. Special thanks to Mr. Beit and Mrs. Rizer for this coordination.

Professional Development May 3, 2019: On this Friday afternoon, Mrs. Claudia Danna presented current and future plans relating to the CPS Walkthrough Model and then teachers worked collaboratively across grade levels to address transitional issues from CES to BMS and then BMS to high school. Special thanks to Mrs. Danna for her work.

Teacher Appreciation Week 2019: During this annual week, the BMS PTO arranged various gracious acts for our teaching staff including special treats, an extensive and glorious breakfast, and a raffle including various gift cards and gifts. A special thanks to Mrs. Laurie Marquis for spearheading this week of events.

Smarter Balanced Assessment and NGSS Assessment: Students in Grade 5 and 8 participated in the NGSS state testing and then all grades participated in the SBAC testing. Each student participated in 2 days of math testing and 1 day of ELA testing. Results will drive our instructional and curricular practice in the future.

High School Transition Meetings: As the year comes to an end, all 8th grade students who have support plans in place (IEP and/or 504) have transition meetings with families, student, and receiving high school support staff. Special thanks to Ms. Zuckerman, Ms. Fields, Mr. Tattersall, and Ms. McDermott for contributing to this impacting activity.

Why Canterbury? Community Expo: On the morning of June 6, 2019, the school will join together to share the various perspectives on the family, experienced citizens, businesses and governmental agencies of Canterbury.

Grade 8 Recognition Ceremony: The date has been set for the Class of 2019 Recognition Ceremony. The evening of June 7 (Friday, last day of school, half day of instruction) at 6:00pm has been scheduled as the culminating event for the Class of 2019. Parents have been notified and invitations are forthcoming.

Submitted May 9, 2019 RDE