

# September Newsletter

September 09, 2021

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## Spanish is Back!

In the 2021-22 school year Canterbury Public Schools restored its Spanish program. We are so thrilled to introduce our new Spanish teacher, Mrs. Dunshee. The Spanish program will be part of the core academic offering in grades 7 and 8. It is our hope that by June 2023 all 8th grade students will be eligible to receive a high school credit in Spanish. The new BMS schedule will also allow for differentiated opportunities in grades 5 and 6, which may include introductory activities in a foreign language. These changes have allowed all of our class sizes at BMS to range between 16-18 students. We are proud to offer our students these great opportunities.



## BMS Sports

### Change in leadership for Boosters!

The Canterbury Board of Education would like to offer its appreciation to Jerry Renaud for his 13 years of service as the BMS Booster President. He has dedicated 17 years of community service to our middle school and the hours of volunteerism is unmeasurable. Thank you, Mr. Renaud! Taking over as Director of Baldwin Booster Club is Laurie Marquis. The Booster Club is instrumental in ensuring our students have access to quality athletic experiences. Visit the BMS athletic page, <https://www.canterburypublicschools.org/dhbms/athletics/>

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## Thank you Bus Drivers!

It takes a special person to be a bus driver. Our Canterbury drivers are responsible for the safety of our students each day. We are fortunate to have a special group that is dedicated to our community!

Throughout Connecticut there is a shortage of bus drivers that has reached a critical tipping point. Nearly every transportation organization is experiencing a shortage of drivers with a CDL license. To be a bus driver you need additional endorsements and the certification process can take months.

In Canterbury when a driver is absent we will need to make run adjustments, often at the last minute. Our drivers have an excellent attendance record but absences will occur from time to time. Unfortunately, we anticipate that transportation issues will happen frequently this year.

If you currently do not utilize our transportation system, please consider completing an opt-out form so we can adjust our bus runs. Currently all bus routes are built to pick up every student every day. The form can be located at

<https://www.canterburypublicschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/CPS-Transportation-Opt-Out-Form-1-1.pdf>, which can be complete and sent to your child's school or you can complete an online form at <https://forms.gle/41XbzG9XtmNogFACA>

Thank you in advance for your assistance and patience as we navigate another unpredictable school year.

