

NEWSLETTER

October 2013

SY2013-2014

Vol. II, Issue II

Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School
52 Lake Parkway
Webster, MA 01570



Principal
Steven Knowlton

Assistant Principal
John Daniel

Assistant Principal
Helen Rowlings

Academic Dean
Rebecca Czernicki

Athletic Director
Anthony Paranto



From the Principal's Desk: Mr. Steven C. Knowlton

As we begin the second marking period with Thanksgiving and the holiday season rapidly approaching, there is much to report from BHS.

SCHOOL OPENING: The 2013-2014 school year opened very smoothly. Despite nine (9) new teachers and the development of a new master scheduling plan, our opening weeks have gone very well. Due to the efforts and hard work of Mr. John Daniel, Dr. Andrew Kelley, and our new Academic Dean, Ms. Rebecca Czernicki, the new scheduling process was effectively completed and implemented. The only bump along the way was an unforeseen rise in enrollment of approximately thirty (30) students. Enrollments in some classes were unusually high, but within a couple of weeks, these concerns were addressed. Our thanks to the teachers, students, and parents for their cooperation and understanding while these issues were resolved.

Our new teachers seem to be settling in and acclimating nicely. We are very fortunate to have such a quality group that is motivated, energetic, and enthusiastic about teaching and working with our students.

DROP-OUT PREVENTION: We continue into the 2013-2014 school year with an increased focus on our drop-out rates and graduation rates as addressed in our District Strategic Plan. We are working through our guidance department and our Drop-out Prevention Committee to work with students toward graduation and a diploma. We are also working through various programs to target our at-risk population and our drop-out rate which is twice the state average. Programs such as Peer Mentoring, Credit Recovery (PLATO Learning), and the Nichols College Tutorial Program have been implemented this year to support and assist students to earn a high school diploma. Should anyone be interested in more information regarding these programs or wishes to participate on our Drop-out Prevention Committee please call me at (508)943-8552.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE: The number one goal of our school district, as indicated by our District Strategic Plan, is to improve student attendance. Obviously, high rates of student absenteeism negatively affects student achievement and the ability to earn a diploma. The Student Attendance Policy that was instituted last year has already yielded positive results with an increase in average daily attendance of over 3% for the 2012-2013 school year. This policy is still in effect. Hopefully, students and parents, if they have not already done so, will thoroughly review the policy and adhere to the prescribed procedures. Students and parents need to understand that the intent of the policy is not to impose academic penalties on students, but to encourage them to be in school and on time on a regular basis.

The district-wide Student Attendance Committee is a group that discusses student attendance issues at all grade levels. For more information or if anyone wishes to participate on the committee, please call (508)943-8552.

BHS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING: The first meeting of the BHS Advisory Council will be held on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 6:30pm in the BHS library. The purpose of this meeting is

to discuss the various school and district initiatives. All interested parents, teachers, and students are encouraged to attend.

Steven C. Knowlton
Principal

Guidance News

We have just finished meeting with all freshmen to give them essential career and school information. We met with all six grade 9 English classes, three times each. Students learned how to access help and support in the school; who their guidance counselor is and his/her role; what a high school transcript is; graduation requirements; and essential career information through the Your Plan for the Future site. Lessons included interest surveys and students learned their Holland codes and the careers that match their interests.

We were thrilled to see a wonderful turnout for our first Bartlett Senior College Night. Seventy-five seniors and parents were in attendance. Some of the topics covered were: The college application process through the Guidance Department; updates with the Common Application; early action/early decision; college tours and open houses; and college interviews.

We will also be having a senior class meeting on Tuesday, October 29th for all seniors to make sure that everyone gets this essential information.

On **November 14th**, Thursday evening at 6:30pm we will be hosting our annual **Financial Aid Night**. Duane Quinn, will be returning to us to give a very clear presentation on the ins and outs of financial aid. All juniors and seniors and their parents/guardians are urged to attend this important event. You will learn how to access the funding to make a college education a reality for your sons/daughters.

All seniors and their parents/guardians should circle their calendars for our **FAFSA Goal Sunday** event. This years' event will take place on Sunday, January 26th. We are one of the few high schools in the state to offer this event to students and their parents. We will have financial aid experts here to assist families in filling out the free FAFSA form which is required to access college funding.

If you have any questions whatsoever please do not hesitate to contact Kim Dobro/ Guidance Curriculum Leader at 508 943-8552 ext. 23

SCHOOL GRADING

2nd Quarter: November 4-January 16

Grades close for Progress Reports on Friday, December 7

Grades close for Report Cards on Thursday, January 16

3rd Quarter: January 21-April 4

Grades close for Progress Reports on Friday, February 28

Grades close for Report Cards on Friday, April 4

4th Quarter: April 7-June 16

Grades close for Progress Reports on Friday, May 16
Grades close for Report Cards on Monday, June 16



Bartlett Students Chosen for Senate Youth Advisory Council

Four freshmen, Dominick Dunbar, Keyshla Falcon, Piotr Kicilinski, and Emily Jones from Bartlett High school have been named to Senator Moore's Youth Advisory Council. Senator Moore decided on the need for such a council in order to ensure that youth in the towns that he represents are given the opportunity to provide feedback and recommendations regarding public policies and programs that affect their future, and to take a leadership role in creating meaningful change.

"I often hear from young people who may be seeking appointment to a national service academy, a college recommendation, or a summer job, but I think it is important to get their thoughts and ideas on a variety of issues that concern teenagers," Sen. Moore explained. Sen. Moore also visits with student leaders in their schools, speaks with history and government classes in area high schools, and reads to elementary students on a regular basis in an effort to stay in contact with young people and their families.

Members of the will meet regularly with Sen. Moore to review pending legislation, discuss issues impacting youth, learn about politics and share this information with their individual communities. Additionally, the council represents young people from their economic, cultural, geographic and familial backgrounds in discussions about important issues. This is done through regular meetings with the Senator. They will be providing input on topics including education, health, foster care, adolescent mental health, teen homelessness, juvenile justice reform, economic development and alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

"I believe it is important for me as a state legislator, and legislative leader, to understand their goals, their desires and their concerns and their hope for the future," Sen. Moore explained. "Having chaired a special state commission on civic engagement and learning, I also feel a sense of responsibility to help young people understand our system of representative democracy, and how to

get their ideas heard by those who make the decisions about policies that have an impact on the lives of our youth,” the senator added.

The **French Club**, *Bon Voyage*, is at it again. Mrs. Morandi will be taking French students to Quebec City for 4 days during February vacation. We will be leaving on Sunday, February 16th and returning the following Wednesday, Feb. 19. Not only will we be seeing the sights in and around Quebec, we will also be participating in typical winter outdoor activities, such as snow shoeing, tobogganing, and tubing.

The trip is open to all current high school French students and any sophomore, junior, or senior in good standing who has taken French in the past. The deadline to enroll on the trip is Thursday, Oct. 31st. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mrs. Morandi at the school by phone or by email - rmorandi@webster-schools.org.

DECA

- DECA meeting November 15th at 2 PM in Room B111.
- Marketing students will be selling pep rally tee shirts in the cafeteria during the first week in November. Please place your order early!
- School store is open daily from 7:15-2:30 PM. School apparel can be ordered and personalized at any time!

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!!

Would you like to join a team where you can?

- Argue your opinions aggressively in public,
- Argue and actually have “ the last word”
- Prove that your opinions and arguments are “Right”
- Assume the role of a material witness and testify at a real trial?
- Compete for a State Championship and move on to Nationals?

Then check out and join the Mock Trial Competition Team here at Bartlett. If you have any questions or want to join see Mr. Gorski as soon as possible in B235.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013-2014

NOVEMBER

6 Half Day (dismiss 11:00am)
6 Honors Banquet 6:00pm
11 Veteran’s Day
12-15 Diversity Week
13 Parent/Teacher Conferences 6:30-8:30
14 Financial Aid Night for Parents of Seniors
19 National Honor Society Induction
23 AP Science Study Session-Tantasqua
28, 29 Thanksgiving Recess

DECEMBER

4 Half Day (dismiss 11:00am)
11 Red Cross Blood Drive

14 AP Math Study Session-Shep.Hill
DEC 23-JAN 1 Holiday Recess

JANUARY

8 Half Day (dismiss 11:00am)
9-11 School Play
11 AP English Mock Exam-BHS
17 No School; Teacher Prof. Dev.
20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

FEBRUARY

5 Half Day (dismiss 11:00am)
8 AP Math Study Session-BHS

12 Blood Drive
17-21 Winter Vacation



DRIVER EDUCATION



WINTER 2014 Class begins: Monday, JANUARY 14, 2014 6:00 – 8:00pm in Room C-132

**Class Dates: January 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 and 30
February 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13**

**Mandatory PARENT MEETING:
Monday, January 27th 6-8pm**

Cost of the program is \$490.00 which includes: 30 hours of classroom instruction, 12 hours behind-the-wheel driving instruction, 6 hours in-car observation and mandatory 2 hour Parent Meeting.

Sign up Sheets will be available at the main desk beginning Monday, November 18, 2013 or you can call the Adult Education office at 508-949-8282 for additional information or see Mr. DeVito in Room A-148 before or after school.

ATHLETICS

Grades 7-8 boys and girls junior high basketball tryouts will take place Monday November 4th at 2pm in the gymnasium

Grades 9-12 Boys and Girls basketball tryouts will be Monday December 2. times TBA
Indoor Track and field tryouts will be Monday December 2. Times TBA
Cheerleading tryouts will also be Monday December 2. Times TBA

Congratulations to both the Boys Football and Boys Soccer teams for qualifying for post season play.

District games for both teams have yet to be determined.



BARTLETT JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL ID#09816

Welcome to the start of a new school year and a year of A+ School Rewards. Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School will have the opportunity to earn school supplies through Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program.

Remember, even if you registered your card last year, you must re-register this year for our school to receive credit. Please be sure to register your card to benefit **Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School, using ID #09816**. Also, **don't forget to encourage your friends and relatives to do the same. It could mean the world to our children. If you do not know your 13-digit STOP & SHOP CARD number, call the Card Hotline at 1-877-366-2668 and select OPTION #2.**

All you have to do is:

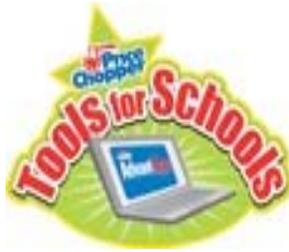
Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus to register online using your Stop & Shop Card

OR

Return this form to school with your child and include your Stop & Shop Card Number

13-digit BONUSCARD# _____ Card Member Name _____

13-digit BONUSCARD# _____ Card Member Name _____



Enroll your Price Chopper AdvantEdge® Card and help our school earn FREE educational equipment every time you shop. Please remember, if you registered your card last year, you will need to register again.

www.pricechopper.com —or— **complete the form below**

OUR 5 DIGIT SCHOOL CODE IS: 14302

If you wish, you can complete the form below, and have your student return it to his/her teacher.

Ten digit Price Chopper Card Number _____ CustomerName _____

Friends, Family, Co-workers, Neighbors:

Ten digit Price Chopper Card Number _____ CustomerName _____

Ten digit Price Chopper Card Number _____ Customer Name _____

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES on November 21st are for Park Ave and Webster Middle Schools; not Bartlett.

Bartlett is only scheduled for November 13th 6:30-8:30 pm.

HOME COMING

This year, Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School's Student Council, Class Officers, Class Advisors, and faculty started a new tradition – Homecoming. Homecoming 2013 was a week full of activities promoting school spirit which was kicked off with a Pep Rally honoring our Fall athletes and acknowledging the King, Queen, and court for our homecoming dance.

As the week progressed, several activities went on both during and after school. Involvement in these activities earned each class points that would later be tallied to declare the most spirited class of students. During the day, classes were encouraged to participate in spirit days where they would wear their Bartlett green and white, sport some crazy hair dos, dress in the fashions of previous decades, become a super hero for the day, and walk around the halls as their favorite professional sports figure. While at lunch, penny wars raged on between the classes. Ultimately, the Senior Class won the war and half of the proceeds have been put toward a memorial tree and garden for Mr. Richard Bryson, who passed away at the beginning of the school year.

After school, students were invited to attend the home sporting events to support their classmates or play in various activities during the evening. The most popular evening event was a kickball tournament where faculty and students competed in the heated matches to declare the ultimate kickball team to be crowned Kickball Champion, 2013. Students who attended these events also earned points for their respective grades toward their final tally.

The culminating event of the week was the Homecoming Dance. The dance was a huge success cementing the new homecoming tradition here at Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School. We cannot wait to start planning next year's events.