

BRYAN

City Schools

SUPERINTENDENT NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2020

WE ARE #BRYANBUILT



Mark Rairigh,
Superintendent

#BRYANBUILT

Wow! What a month October has been at BCS! We have been grateful to witness so many wonderful accomplishments by our students and district staff.

October has brought us 3 NWOAL sports championships with Volleyball, Boys Golf, and Junior High Girls Cross Country all taking home the trophy. It has also brought us a record setting Girls Tennis team, a state qualifying duo at the Girls State Tennis Tournament, multiple school records shattered by teams and individuals, and Cross Country Runners getting ready to compete at the Regional (and then hopefully the State) races.

Beyond the successes on the field of play our Marching Band had amazing performances at Football games (and virtual concert recordings being released soon), the Orchestra Program pulled off it's first virtual concert of the year, and the Choral program will be releasing their first virtual concert in the near future! On top of that the Arts program continues to flourish and the creativity remains at an all time high!

As we enter into the month of November there obviously is much to look ahead to. As we prepare for the first Blue Moon on Halloween in 76 years, Election Day, and continue to track the Coronavirus we know that 2020 will keep us on our toes. However, through all of this we will have to

remember that November is a month to be thankful, and here at BCS there is so much to be thankful for.

As the calendar turns to November we will continue to keep the safety of our district a top priority. Continuing with in-person learning and giving our students the opportunity to participate in our extra-curricular activities remains the focus each and every day. We know that information, data, and safety plans can change quickly, however we will remain prepared for whatever may lie ahead.

Thank you for a continued great school year!

Go Bears!

Mark Rairigh
Superintendent

IMPORTANT DISTRICT DATES

- October 29** - 3:30-8pm - MS/HS PT Conferences
- November 5** - 3:00-8:00pm - Elementary PT Conf.
- November 5** - 3:30-8:00pm - MS/HS PT Conf.
- November 10** - 3:00-6:40pm-Elementary PT Conf.
- November 12-15** - Fall Play at Arts and Ed
- November 13** - End of Tri 1 at Elementary
- November 16** - No School for Students - Staff PD
- November 23-27** - Thanksgiving Break
- December 18** - Early Release at 1:15pm-ALL Students
- December 18** - MS/HS End of 1st Semester/2nd Q
- December 21-January 1** - Winter Break
- January 4** - School Resumes after Winter Break

EARLY RELEASE - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

New this school year are two early release dates on the school calendar. In an effort to keep consistency for families across the district during the days leading up to Winter Break and the end of the school year students will be released at 1:15pm to help with unique building schedules that are in place.

Please mark your calendar for early releases on these dates:

Early Release - Friday, December 18, 2020 - 1:15pm

Early Release - Thursday, May 27, 2021 - 1:15pm

School transportation will follow the early release times on these dates.

COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FOR HEALTHY FAMILIES (CAHF)

No matter what 2020 brings, CAHF recognizes that each of us still has so much to be grateful for! For the month of November, Community Advocates for Healthy Families (CAHF) is doing a 24/7 challenge! As a family, or an individual, talk about or write down 7 things you are thankful for in the past 24 hours. We encourage you to post some of these, or family pictures discussing gratefulness, to the CAHF facebook page. CAHF will be doing a drawing on Wednesday, November 18 for gift baskets and gift cards. Every post made will qualify as an entry to randomized prize drawings!

PROJECT BRYAN

This fall, Katie Butler, an artist, teacher, and actor (born in Bryan and currently living in Philadelphia) connected with Teacher and Fall Play Director Betsy Zuver via Facebook and ended up coming to Bryan to explore her birthplace. Part of her visit included a phenomenal workshop with our Fall Play cast!

Katie is finishing her Master of Fine Arts coursework in Devised Performance and has invited us, the Bryan Community, to be a part of her final project. In the month that Katie has partnered with our schools, the students have learned and grown so much. An artistic process like this is an opportunity not many get to witness let alone be a part of. Please visit her [WEBSITE](#) to get to know Katie a bit more and explore the information about the project and how you can help! This could be a neat experience for you!

FREE LUNCH AND BREAKFAST EXTENDED

The Ohio Department of Education received approval to expand free breakfast and lunch to all students attending schools on the National School Lunch Program through the entire 2020-2021 school year. This opportunity continues the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Ohio Department of Education’s dedication to meeting the needs of the whole child during the COVID-19 pandemic. **The expanded program will provide FREE Type A meals to ALL BCS students through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year.** This does not include Ala Carte items and separate/extra milk only purchases. Students will continue to be charged for any extra items beyond the Type A meal. Students enrolled in our ACE Digital Academy can pick up meals from 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM at the rear of the elementary school each day that school is in session.

FALL PLAY

In the spirit of 2020 the Bryan High School Theatre Department has announced its Fall Play: *THE ONE ACT PLAY THAT GOES WRONG*

The dates of the play are November 12-15 at the Arts and Ed Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased for \$5.00 in the HS office or at the door. To see how you can remain COVID safe for each performance please check out this student created [VIDEO](#).

COVID-19 DATA

COVID continues to be heavily monitored by Bryan City Schools. As noted earlier in this newsletter, we will continue to keep the safety of our district a top priority. Continuing with in-person learning and giving our students the opportunity to participate in our extra-curricular activities remains the focus each and every day. We will continue to send district wide COVID updates when applicable and we encourage you to do your part in the community to help keep our students and community safe.

To help you stay informed here are some valuable data and website links:

- Click [HERE](#) to view BCS COVID data.
- Click [HERE](#) to reference County COVID data.
- Click [HERE](#) for the latest Williams County Health Department Talking Points.

RED RIBBON WEEK

Both Bryan Elementary and the Middle/High School celebrated Red Ribbon Week the dates of October 26-30. Students have had the opportunity to have dress-up days to help put a focus on the efforts to remain drug free.

Bryan City Schools remains committed to providing social/emotional and drug free services to ALL of our students. These services include:

- 2 District Licensed Social Workers
- School Based Mental Health Therapy
- A District Therapy Dog - Catcher
- DARE programs
- 2 District School Resource Officers
- Trained Guidance Staffing
- A District Crisis Intervention Team
- STOPit App for Students to use to anonymously report suspicious activity
- Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) Programs
- Partnerships with A Renewed Mind and the Juvenile Probation Department
- Integration of the 7 Mindsets at Bryan Elementary

As we continue to focus on these social/emotional and drug free efforts a series of educationally based programs will take place throughout the school year. If you have questions or need more information on any of these programs don't hesitate to reach out to Bryan City Schools.

FOOD DRIVES

Bryan Elementary will be holding a Bountiful Harvest food drive **November 2-6** to benefit the Bear Bag program. Students may bring their donations to their homerooms or parents are welcome to bring food at the time of their parent teacher conference. A cart will be available for collection in the front entryway. Parent donations will be accepted through Nov. 12. Please click [HERE](#) to learn about foods that are requested to be donated.

BHS students have been hosting a food drive to assist with the Bear Bag program as well through their ***Battle of the Classes*** contest. As of this print date over 250 items have already been donated!!!

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conferences at the Elementary and the MS/HS are being held face-to-face, but all parents will have the option to meet through a phone conference, or in some cases virtually, if requested and to remain COVID safe. All staff and parents are required to wear masks and socially distance to the MAX while at conferences!

We are requesting that a maximum of 2 parents/guardians of each student attend conferences to help remain COVID safe.

Bryan Elementary is using the PTC.com sign up platform as used in the past.

Parents of MS/HS students should contact the school at 419-636-4536 to arrange a conference time with a teacher.

VETERANS DAY - NOVEMBER 11

The students of Bryan City Schools will be honoring Veterans in a special video edition of our annual program!

It is NO doubt that 2020 has presented some interesting challenges for everyone! Celebrating and honoring this distinguished group of men and women, in spite of many new regulations, was a challenge happily accepted by the Bryan City School District!

Please plan to tune in on Wednesday, November 11th at 9:00 am for the YouTube Live Premier!

Links will be located on the Bryan City School web page, BMU's Facebook page, and on BMU TV channel 4.

God Bless America!

