



Michael J. D'Ostilio
Principal

Bunker Hill Middle School

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"Carrying on a Proud Tradition of Learning"

Dr. Gregory B. Muscelli
Assistant Principal

December 11, 2018

Dear Parents and Families,

Time is quickly approaching for winter break. There seems to be so much to do with so little time. December is a time in school where a lot of events happen. This week we celebrated the selection of Herr McCloskey as the Teacher of the Year. Herr McCloskey is our German teacher and is an exceptional education and even better person. For those of you who take German or have Herr McCloskey for homeroom, you understand what a great choice this was and a total honor not only for him but the for the entire Bunker Hill Community as well. This month we also have our winter concerts coming up and some Holiday spirit days. These two weeks will go by fast. Hope everyone has a wonderful break and be safe in your travels.

Calendar of Events:

[Monthly Calendar](#)

Principal's Video Message

[Principal's Update December 11, 2018](#)

Notable Events. If the activity is underlined & in a different color, please click to obtain more specific information.

Thurs	Dec 13...7pm	BHMS Winter Musical Concert Grades 7-8...Investor's Bank Center
M-F	Dec 17-21	Spirit Week
Tues	Dec 18...All Day	PTO Dine and Donate Pat's Select
Thurs	Dec 20	BHMS Geography Bee Competition in Classes
Thurs	Dec 20...7pm	BHMS Winter Musical Concert Grade 6...BHMS Cafeteria
Friday	Dec 21...	Early Dismissal
M-F	Dec 24-28	Winter Break
M-T	Dec 31-Jan 1	New Year's Break

Wed	Jan 2	Students Return to School
Wed	Jan 9	Middle School Idol Auditions
Sat	Jan 19... 7pm	Jessie Chris In Concert (More Information to Follow)

Coat Drive:

If you have coats that are too small for your children or are gently used, but you don't wear any longer, please consider donating your coat to the Bunker Hill Coat Drive which is in conjunction with the Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Please see this poster for more details. [BHMS Coat Drive](#)

Spirit Week:

Please see the attached handout regarding the events planned for Spirit Week. [Spirit Week Poster](#)

Pat's Select Coupon Books:

The 8th grade class is selling coupon books for \$15. The book pays for itself the first time you buy a pizza. Proceeds of this sale go to help fund end of year activities for the 8th grade class. Please see the [Pat's Select Flyer](#)

Jessie Chris in Concert:

At the beginning of October, Jessie Chris, country music recording artist, paid a visit to the middle schools, spreading her message of care, compassion, and anti-bullying. She is returning to Washington Twp on January 19 at the 11/12 auditorium. More information is coming out this week. Be sure to go to her webpage <https://www.jessiechris.com> then click on "Tour". Washington Township is listed. More information will follow in an email/remind blast regarding ticket prices and times.

Security Drills

Dr. Muscelli, Officer Hamilton, and I have been working in conjunction with security, law enforcement, and detectives on various committees. Based on unfortunate events that have transpired across the country, school are being advised to conduct unannounced emergency drills. This means that we will conduct a drill without notifying teachers and the student body that a drill is in progress. Rather, we simply prompt the students to a procedure and then reconvene and inform them a drill took place. This has positives and negatives.

The negative is that sadly, these real events are so prevalent across the country. As a result, I am very cognizant of the fact that staff and students will be nervous about the intent of the emergency procedure. The positive, however, is that it allows a better preparedness for school officials, law

enforcement, and most importantly students. Each drill needs to be taken very seriously and conducted with precision. Very specific training is now essential. We as a school have a duty, first and foremost, to do our diligence to provide the best safety procedures for our children.

In order to quell any anxiety about these drills, I will communicate with families regarding the time frame of the drills and will certainly send out correspondence once a drill has been conducted. Students and teachers will also know immediately after the protocol that the incident was a drill. Keep in mind that by law, we are mandated to conduct multiple drills per month. We still do fire/evacuation drills. We will continue to announce those.

This new procedure will be in effect beginning in January of 2019. If you have any questions, I encourage you to reach out to me or Dr. Muscelli. We would be happy to talk with you on the phone or even meet with you. Again, this is not an attempt to promote concern, just an attempt to hone our safety protocol.

Clubs and Extracurricular Activities

Many of the clubs have started. Please listen to the morning announcements or view them on the website. If you don't hear your club on the announcements, please view the club list in the main hallway or in the cafeteria to see who the teacher is to contact. You can also visit this link: <https://www.wtps.org/Page/6860>.

It is also important that families know about the prep clubs. Prep clubs are in place to provide homework assistance and study assistance. If your child is in need of attending or receiving extra support, please see this link so you know when your child's grade level prep club meets. <https://www.wtps.org/Page/26254>.

Remind Account BHMS Updates

To join, text the message: @bhmstwp to the number 81010

Sincerely,

Mike D'Ostilio