

BUNKER HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

372 PITMAN DOWNER ROAD SEWELL, NJ 08080 856.881.7007 Fax 856.881.5414

"Carrying on a Proud Tradition of Learning"

Michael J. D'Ostilio Principal Gregory Muscelli, Ed.D. Assistant Principal

June 6, 2019

Dear 8th Grade Bulldog Families:

It is with great regret that we must cancel the 8th grade dance/party originally scheduled for tomorrow 6/7/19 from 1 - 2:30 pm. We did not have enough ticket sales to ensure the ability to run the event. This was in place to provide the students an opportunity to meet with peers and spend time after school where they would get their yearbooks and have an opportunity to sign the yearbooks.

As you recall from my last principal's update, we had originally wanted to do a spring dance, but the loss of the gymnasium and with only one all purpose room left, we could not solidify a date that was not in conflict with other dates already planned. We then tried to compromise and have a dance from 3-5pm which wouldn't conflict, but transportation became an issue for families and work schedules. This relegated us to a 1-2:30 time slot where we would be able to ensure transportation. Unfortunately, this third alternative did not prove enticing to the students.

It was our hope to provide a celebration for the students, but the lack of ticket sales did not make that possible. We at BHMS apologize for any inconvenience this caused and we are working to refund those families that paid for tickets. Additionally, because we cancelled the event, we made the decision to give 8th graders their yearbooks today so they could get them before the rest of the student body.

Also listed in my previous principal's update, I wanted to remind your children that our last event for the 8th graders will be a celebration of their year and with their peers. On the last day of school we will lead a recognition ceremony for them. I know there are a lot of questions about this day. It is important to note that this is for students only. We have had to make adjustments again due to the loss of the gym. Typically, we would have this event in the gym and did not have room families to attend. This year is even more constrained, and we are faced with having to fit 200 students, their teachers, and the band, orchestra, and chorus in a space ½ the size of the gym. While this continues to be the circumstances, we ask that families respect this situation and refrain from coming to the building to participate in the event. We do not have the capacity in our space. With that being said, you should know that there will be 4 students speaking as they have the highest-grade average over a 3 year span compared to their peers. Additionally, we will be giving an award from the Veterans of Foreign Wars to another student. These five students who are speaking or receiving that specific honor will have the opportunity to have their parents present to see them awarded the accolade. Other than that, again, we do not have the capacity to accommodate all families.

While these circumstances are less than ideal, they are consistent with what we at BHMS have done in the past. Historically, these have been outstanding events for the students and they find great meaning in spending this last day with peers. With this wonderful 8th grade class, I expect this to be no different. Your children are wonderful and will certainly be missed.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter and your partnership

Very Sincerely,

Mike D'Ostilio