



Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

Superintendent Update

If you need this document translated, please call your child's school principal - Si necesita este documento traducido, por favor comuníquese con la escuela de su hijo - Se você precisa este documento traduzido, entre em contato com a escola dos seus filhos - Si vous avez besoin de traduire ce document, s'il vous plaît contacter l'école de votre enfant - 如果你需要这份文件翻译, 请联系您的孩子的 - 学校 - إذا كنت تحتاج /تحتاجين إلى ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إلى اللغة العربية، - 学校 - يرجى الاتصال بمدرسة طفلك/طفلاتك - Если вам нужна помощь с переводом этого документа, позвоните директору школы вашего ребёнка

Friday, March 11, 2022

Hello Bedford School Community,

Misuse of our BEST Directory

I want to apologize to any of our families who received a campaign email from Ms. Kelly Horton, a candidate for school committee. Ms. Horton misused the BEST Directory to campaign for elected office in town. It is important to know that you should not have been subjected to this type of email. The purpose of the BEST Directory is to foster community, it is not to be used for marketing purposes and it was. Please know that this misuse was not approved or endorsed by the Bedford Public Schools or BEST. It should also be clear that our ASPEN Data system was not breached, instead the BEST Directory was misused. This was a violation of the BEST Directory agreement which states that,

“... all of the information contained herein is not for commercial use and not for further distribution. The use of the information, including email addresses, is ONLY for classroom, personal, and BEST activities. It would be inappropriate to use the emails or other information for commercial/business activity or non-BEST fundraising activity. Your understanding in this matter is greatly appreciated.”

The candidate and BEST have sent emails apologizing to our families for the misuse of the BEST Directory. Please know that we respect everyone's privacy and will ensure that this does not happen again to BEST or any of our other parent groups. This is a deeply troubling situation and I apologize to everyone for this breach of edict.

*****Please note that NO campaigning is allowed on school property.** This includes posting signs, holding signs, or passing out literature. We will make sure that everyone understands this for all elections moving forward.***

International Women's Day

Tuesday of this week was International Women's Day. International Women's Day is a global day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The day also seeks to accelerate gender equity. For more information about International Women's Day go to <https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

Bedford Dollars for Scholars

CSF of Bedford Dollars for Scholars kicked off their 57th annual Dollars for Scholars Fundraising Campaign. Bedford High students stuffed and labeled letters, which will be mailed to Bedford neighbors this week so please be on the lookout for those letters. Please help make this year's scholarships for the Class of 2022 the largest awards yet. In May 2021, CSF of Bedford awarded over \$157,000 to graduating seniors. For additional information, please see their website, bedfordma.dollarsforscholars.org

The 26th Annual Regional High School Art Show

The Artwork of over fifty Bedford High School students will be on display at the 26th Annual Regional High School Art Show at LexArt located at 130 Waltham Street, Lexington, MA from March 5th through 20th. The exhibit hours are Tuesday through Friday from 11 am until 5 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 10 am until 5 pm. A private reception for artists, family, and friends will be held on Tuesday, March 15th from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm. Images of the installation can be seen at: <https://www.lexart.org/high-schools/bedford>

Mamma Mia at BHS

Bedford High School will present MAMMA MIA, the crowd-pleasing hit featuring the music of ABBA, March 16-19, 2022 in the Joseph Buckley Auditorium at Bedford High School. The show features lots of laughs, amazing dancing, and favorite pop hits, and is most suitable for a PG-13 audience.

Performances are March 16 at 4:30 pm, March 17 & 18 at 7:00 pm, March 19 at 1:00 pm (a mask-required show), and 7:00 pm. The March 19, 2022 show at 1:00 pm was added to accommodate a mask-required performance. Masks are required at the 1:00 pm show and strongly encouraged at all of the other shows.

Tickets are \$14 for adults and \$12 for students/seniors and are available [here](#). Don't miss your chance to see BHS's talented performing arts students on stage for the first live spring musical since 2020!

Testing

Want to be part of our FREE at-home testing program or our pooled testing program?

Click Here to opt-in to [At-Home Antigen Test Opt-In Google Form](#)

Click here to view a video on [How to use the iHealth COVID 19 Test](#)

Click here for instructions [on how to use the iHealth COVID 19 Test in multiple languages](#)

Click here to consent to the ongoing Pooled Testing [Pooled-Testing Consent Form](#)

Masks for those who test positive for COVID-19

Please keep in mind that for infected individuals the current guidelines require masks to be worn within the ten-day infection period.

- Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will need to wear a mask after a 5-day isolation and/or quarantine period when around others for an additional five days, except when eating, drinking, or outdoors.
- Individuals who experience COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and obtain testing. If they receive a negative result and their symptoms improve (including remaining fever-free for a 24 hour period without fever-reducing medication), they can return to school but should continue to wear a mask until their symptoms fully resolve.
- Unvaccinated individuals should continue to wear a mask in school settings.

COVID-19 Email Addresses

Please continue to utilize the COVID-19 email addresses for all COVID-19 related inquiries. All cases of COVID-19 (both home tests and tests from a medical provider) should be reported to your child's school nurse using the above-listed email addresses.

For the Davis School please email: daviscovid@bedfordps.org

For the Lane School please email lanecovid@bedfordps.org

For JGMS please email jgmscovid@bedfordps.org

For BHS please email bhscovid@bedfordps.org

Case Update Information

Moving forward we will continue to track reported positive student and staff cases via self-administered home-style antigen tests, as well as point of care tests (either PCR, rapid PCR, or rapid antigen). DESE guidance has been updated, and self-administered home-style antigen tests with a positive result are accepted and treated as a positive case of COVID-19. The dashboard is up-to-date and can be accessed here:

[Link to COVID-19 Cases in the Bedford Public Schools This Week](#)

Please be sure to report any positive COVID-19 test results to the absence line or your school's covid email address listed above.

Safety Check Testing/Pooled testing/weekly PCR testing

It is important to note that our COVID-19 safety check testing protocol is up and running weekly at each school. We urge everyone to sign up to be part of our protective testing program.

We are using the single swab collection, placing 2 -3 swabs in a “pool” to be processed by the lab, and if the pool detects a positive result, the school nurses will retest those individuals with rapid antigen tests, and if positive families will be notified and instructed on isolation procedures. If the rapid test is negative and the individual is symptom-free, they can resume weekly COVID-19 testing the following week.

Pooled Testing Results Week of March 7, 2022

BHS 93 students, 38 staff, 0 positive cases

JGMS 168 students, 42 staff, 0 positive cases

Lane 343 students, 41 staff 1 positive case

Davis 280 students, 43 staff, 0 positive cases

COVID Case Updates

Please check the link below to review current and past cases of COVID-19 cases within our school community. Please note that these numbers have been reported on the [Bedford COVID-19 Dashboard](#). Our case information to date is broken out by school below

Cases Reported This Week Since March 4, 2022:

BHS 0

JGMS 1

Lane 2

Davis 1

[Link to COVID-19 Cases in the Bedford Public Schools This Week](#)

Positions available

The Bedford Public Schools are seeking substitute teachers and Special Education Teaching Assistants. If you are interested please apply at [BPS Substitutes](#) or to [BPS Special Education Teaching Assistants](#).

As always, thank you for your patience, your participation, and your continued commitment to our schools.

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad
Superintendent