



Town of Bedford
97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

Superintendent Update

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Friday, December 10, 2021

Hello Bedford School Community,

Pearl Harbor Day

On Tuesday we commemorated Pearl Harbor Day. The day is a remembrance of the surprise attack by Japanese forces on Sunday, December 7, 1941, of the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor near Honolulu, Hawaii. The attack occurred just before 8 a.m. on that Sunday morning. Hundreds of Japanese fighter planes descended on the base, where they managed to destroy or damage nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and over 300 airplanes. More than 2,400 Americans died in the attack, including civilians, and another 1,000 people were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan. To learn more about Pearl Harbor please navigate to the [Pearl Harbor National Memorial Site](#) or the [History Channel Pearl Harbor Webpage](#).

United Nations Human Rights Day

Today is [UN Human Rights Day](#). The UN General Assembly adopted December 10th as Human Rights Day with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) [Universal Declaration of Human Rights \(UDHR\)](#) in 1948. The UDHR was a milestone document, which proclaims the inalienable rights that everyone is entitled to as a human being - regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or another opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, or other status.

Performing Arts News

Best wishes to all of our performers in this season of winter concerts. These performances are the culmination of months of hard work and dedication for each performer. Please take the opportunity to see a concert!

12/7 JGMS Instrumental Concert 7 PM
12/9 JGMS Vocal Concert 7 PM
12/14 BHS Instrumental Concert 7 PM
12/22 Lane School Concert 7 PM at BHS

Congratulations to our students who auditioned for and were accepted into the Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) Eastern MA District Senior Festival!

Chorus: Heather Anderson (soprano), Ben Couvee (bass), and Emily Kang (soprano)

Orchestra: Niles Liu (violin), Zachary Shen (percussion)

Band: Ben Sedran (trombone)

Jazz Band: Colin O'Toole (trumpet)

AFJROTC News

Congratulations to BHS junior Selima Chan for being selected for the Air Force Flight Academy for the summer of 2022! The Flight Academy is an Air Force program that covers transportation, room and board, academics, and the flight hours required to earn a Private Pilot Certificate. The scholarship is valued at over \$20,000! Congratulations Selima! In addition, Emmanuel Li was selected as an alternate for the Flight Academy. Congratulations to our students and the entire AFJROTC program.

DECA News

Congratulations to all 29 of our BHS students who competed at the recent regional DECA Competition. 14 of those students will be moving on to the State DECA Competition to be held in March. The students moving on to State's include:

Business Law and Ethics: Ian Grove, Rushil Lonial, Roza Shaikh, and Bianca Tiwari

Entrepreneurship: James Tierney, Ariel Navon, and Will Campbell

Personal Financial Literacy: Vishal Borra

Principles of Business Management and Administration: Zachary Shen and Anthony O'Brien

Sports & Entertainment Marketing: Pranav Kaundinya, Ittai Weisman, and Lucas Rodriguez

Start-Up Business Plan: Arnav Thotangare

Tiered Focused Monitoring (TFM) BHS & JGMS Family Surveys

During this school year, we are participating in a Tiered Focus Monitoring Review conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The purpose of the Tiered Focused Monitoring Review is to monitor compliance with regulatory requirements focusing on special education and civil rights.

Below are links for our BHS and JGMS Family Academic & Extracurricular Activities Surveys. These surveys are part of this review and will enable us to gain a better understanding of our BHS and JGMS families' experiences. Please complete the survey for each child who attends BHS or JGMS. At the end of this survey is a section of optional, self-identification questions to allow the review team to better quantify the data obtained from this survey. These questions are optional and do not need to be completed to submit the survey.

If you have any questions about these surveys or the TFM process, please contact Tricia Clifford, Ed. D., Assistant Superintendent at superintendentoffice@bedfordps.org

[BHS Family Academic & Extracurricular Activities Survey](#)

[JGMS Family Academic & Extracurricular Activities Survey](#)

COVID Case Updates

As reflected in the overall rising COVID-19 cases in the state, we have seen an uptick in COVID-19 cases in our school community. We continue to encourage everyone to get vaccinated.

Please check the link below to review current and past cases of COVID-19 cases within our school community.

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

COVID-19 Testing Programs

We continued with COVID safety checks this week for grades Pre-K to 12. This week we completed 333 tests at Davis, 383 tests at Lane, 220 tests at JGMS, and 114 tests at BHS. The results of the tests at Davis, JGMS and BHS were negative. This week there were 2 positive pools at Lane School which resulted in 2 positive cases. All positive cases and close contacts have been notified.

We will continue testing next week, the week of December 13th. Please note, we will not be testing the week of December 20th. We can only run the pooled testing program when the school is able to complete the entire process from the initial period pooled test through completion of all needed follow-up tests/tracing. We will resume weekly testing after the December break.

We continue to encourage everyone to sign up for the COVID-19 safety tests as a means of keeping the community safe.

[BPS COVID-19 Testing Sign Up Link](#)

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